



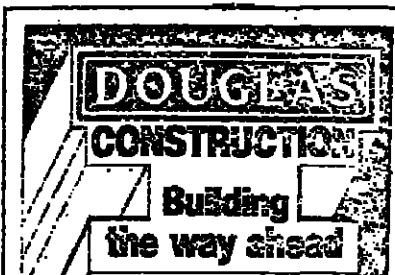
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Daily Telegraph

No. 40,261. LONDON, MONDAY, NOVEMBER 26, 1984

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SCARGILL IN KINNOCK SHOWDOWN

Leader 'must say where he stands'

THE miners' president, Mr Arthur Scargill, yesterday appeared to be heading for a "showdown" with Mr Kinnock when he challenged Labour's leader to say exactly where he stands on all aspects of the pit dispute at a public meeting on Friday.

Mr Kinnock, who has not attended any of the NUM's recent morale-boosting rallies, has been accused of lacking total commitment to the strike by his party's Left-wing and the union.

In other developments yesterday, two working miners who have been victims of intimidation—one has had his home set on fire and the other attacked with baseball bats—appealed to the union to "get rid of Arthur Scargill."

In Nottinghamshire, where most miners are working, the union's area executive is to discuss a call to end the ban on overtime which was introduced nationally several months before the strike started.

Other pit news—P2

Challenge from Left

By MAURICE WEAVER Industrial Staff

THE miners' president, Mr Arthur Scargill, said yesterday that he will expect the Labour leader, Mr Kinnock, to say "where he stands on every single question affecting the miners' dispute" when the two men speak at a Labour party meeting this week.

It was taken as an indication that Mr Scargill is seeking a showdown with Mr Kinnock, whom he has accused of lacking total commitment to the strike.

The two men have participated in what has amounted to a political stand-off since the Labour leader declined to attend any of Mr Scargill's programme of morale-boosting rallies earlier this month.

He argued that he had prior engagements, but it was widely interpreted as a snub for the miners' leadership.

This week's meeting, to take place at Stoke-on-Trent on Friday, is organised by the Labour party and Mr Kinnock has invited Mr Scargill and his team to share the platform.

'Superb backing' praised

Stoke is in the heart of the Midlands coalfields and a heavy attendance of miners is expected.

Although Mr Kinnock has addressed miners' leaders in his own Welsh constituency of Isywyn, he has not up to now attended a major strike gathering.

The Labour party has been represented at the NUM rallies by its Left-wing general secretary, Mr Jim Mortimer, and its former chairman, Mr Eric Heffer.

Mr Scargill, speaking on BBC Radio World This Week-end yesterday, paid tribute to the "quite superb" backing given by Mr Mortimer and Mr Heffer and to the "absolutely wonderful support" by the Labour party in general.

He made no mention of Mr Kinnock until asked.

He then said: "No doubt on

Notts overtime ballot

By JAMES O'BRIEN

THE NUM's national overtime ban could be voted out by Nottinghamshire's 30,500 miners next month. A resolution calling for branch ballots on the ban from one colliery has been accepted by the union's area executive.

It will be discussed today by the Area Council which is expected to refer the resolution to the 31 branches.

Grounds given for the executive for accepting the resolution are that 12 months have now elapsed since the ban was introduced. It extends to weekend maintenance work but in the last three weeks this has been about 13 pits were believed to be working overtime.

Coal has not been cut at weekends or outside normal shift hours during the nine-month strike.

An NUM Nottinghamshire branch secretary said yesterday: "There is tremendous support for an end to the overtime ban. Some pits have already started working at

weekends doing essential maintenance so they can get a sailing start on Monday morning. "By the end of December the ban should be over. When the resolution is discussed by branches there will be huge attendances to see the ban dead and buried," he added.

Nottinghamshire miners have been annoyed by striking miners in Yorkshire and Scotland who have been allowed to go into their pits until recently to do maintenance work. The area executive has said it will not accept the NCB's 5-28 per cent pay offer but it is becoming increasingly likely that branches will refer that decision back to the executive and force it to concede to members' wishes and let the Board pay the money.

MURRAY IMPROVES

Mr Lionel Murray, 62, former general secretary of the Trades Union Congress, is continuing to improve in the National Heart Hospital, London, following coronary by-pass surgery.

'Get rid of Scargill' appeal

By JOHN WILLIAMS

TWO working Yorkshire miners, the latest victims of pit strike intimidation, yesterday met in a hospital ward and appealed to other miners: "Get rid of Arthur Scargill."

Mr Stewart Spencer, 32, left the burned-out ruins of his home at Upton, near Pontefract, to visit another working colleague, Mr Michael Fletcher, who was attacked by hooded men with baseball bats in his home at Castleford on Friday.

Mr Fletcher, 24, still in pain from his broken shoulder, broken ankle, bruised ribs and other injuries, shook hands with Mr Spencer and said: "All our fellow miners should get back to work and change the union rules so that the NUM president has to be re-elected every three years."

Mr Spencer, whose home was set on fire early on Saturday, also called for a change in the rules "so that we can change the NUM presidency." He added: "What they have done to Michael is disgusting. I firmly believe it is the branch of the NUM which has taken part in all this."

'Threat to daughter'

He accused the NUM of trying to kill his two-year-old daughter, Rebecca, in the fire. Striking miners had threatened to kill Rebecca only days before the blaze, he said.

"They emphasised they would kill my daughter and the main target in this blaze was her bedroom. That sums it up."

Mr Scargill, in a BBC Radio interview yesterday, said of the attackers: "I will not subscribe in any way to condemning miners who are demonstrating on picket lines for their right to work. That is their only crime."

But he went on: "Nobody in this union would subscribe to attacks on people's houses. He denied the union had ever been involved in violence."

Mr Spencer said he would be returning to his job at Wheldale Colliery, Castleford, tomorrow.

He and his wife, Karen, 27, left their bungalow last week after a 120-strong mob gathered outside and threatened him and

Continued on Back P. Col 3

CBI SEEK £2 bn BUDGET TAX BOOST

By Our Business Correspondent

A £2 billion boost to the economy through personal and business tax cuts to sustain the recovery is being sought by the Confederation of British Industry.

The employers' body will consider the Budget package at a meeting on Wednesday in the wake of CBI reports today forecasting that the recovery will extend into 1986.

CBI leaders want around £600 million of the tax cuts to reduce business taxation and £1.2 billion for income tax changes. They also want a £1 billion programme of road, sewerage and other sector investments from public spending savings.

City Report—P21

NEW CEILING ON REGIONAL STATE AID

By Our Business Correspondent

Wide-ranging changes in Government aid for the regions with a new ceiling on grants for job creation will be announced by Mr Lamont, Industry Minister on Wednesday.

Parts of Scotland and the North East will be removed from the assisted areas map and areas of the West Midlands included for the first time.

A limit of £15,000 to £20,000 Government aid is expected for each job created by firms expanding in the assisted areas, about half the cost at present.

TWO DIE IN RIVER CRASH

Two men died, believed drowned, when they were trapped in their car which crashed upside down into a river beside the A38 at Rookbridge, Somerset, yesterday.

One was the driver, James Kenna, 22, of Gore Road, Burnham-on-Sea, Somerset, and the other, about the same age, is yet to be identified.

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Mr Stuart Spencer, the Yorkshire miner whose home was destroyed in an arson attack, visiting fellow working miner Mr Michael Fletcher yesterday in Pontefract Hospital, where he is recovering after being beaten up by masked men on Friday.

Lenin worship too much for Kinnock

By NICOL WADE in Leningrad

MR KINNOCK, the Labour party leader, found "too much of Lenin in Leningrad when he visited the birthplace of the Russian revolution at the weekend."

He quickly tired of the endless tributes to Lenin, father of Soviet Communism, while touring the Smolny Institute where Lenin had his headquarters in the Bolshevik uprising of 1917.

He was first shown the hall where Lenin formed the first organ of Soviet power, the Council of People's Commissars. A huge portrait of Vladimir Lenin hangs above a gleaming white marble rostrum in what was formerly the ballroom of a college for young noblemen.

Guides spoke in hushed, reverential tones and Mr Kinnock remarked to aides as he left the hall: "That's how to create a church."

Elsewhere, as Mr Denis Healey, Labour's foreign affairs spokesman, took photographs and engaged the guides in jolly banter Mr Kinnock hacked away into a group of television reporters, sighing in an exasperated manner.

Meaningful look

He raised his eyebrows in a meaningful look to his Press spokeswoman, Patricia Hewitt, who confirmed later that "he disapproves of the Lenin worship absolutely."

The guides, interpreter and officials did not seem to notice his behaviour even when he turned back on a guide as she was extolling Lenin's capacity for hard work.

"Lenin was constantly waking up in the night, making telephone calls, and giving instructions," she said. "He must have had a bet on," quipped the sceptical Labour leader to his aides.

Today Mr Kinnock is due to see President Konstantin Chernenko, only the fifth Soviet leader since Lenin, for Kremlin talks on East-West issues.

SOVIET PLANES 'FOR NICARAGUA'

By Our Washington Staff

A new intelligence report that Soviet-bloc military aircraft were possibly bound for Nicaragua lacked official confirmation in Washington yesterday.

A State Department spokeswoman said she had no comment on a Washington Post account, which said that U.S. intelligence had spotted crates containing Czechoslovakian planes at the docks in the Bulgarian seaport of Burgas.

Fact rejected—P5

SKYJACK BLAST DEADLOCK

By R. BARRY O'BRIEN in Addis Ababa

THREE sky-jackers holding 108 passengers aboard an airliner at Addis Ababa airport were still threatening to blow up the plane last night after the rejection of their demands. The flight, a blue and white Boeing 707 of Somali Airlines, was surrounded by armed troops as negotiations continued.

A crew member was wounded in a mid-air shooting when the three men, said to be members of the Somali Army, seized control of the airliner on Saturday on a flight from the Somali capital of Mogadishu to Jeddah, Saudi Arabia, via the Somali port of Berbera.

Fifteen women and three children were allowed off the plane at Addis Ababa, together with the pilot, co-pilot and wounded crew member.

The sky-jackers said the other passengers would be released if the Somali Government cancelled the execution scheduled for yesterday, of seven men accused of anti-Government activities, and freed certain political prisoners. The Somali Government, in a statement rejecting the demands, said no one was under sentence of death.

A senior Somali Government delegation, on their way to China via Saudi Arabia, are said to be among passengers.

FIRE DISRUPTS TUBE TRAINS

Bakerloo Line Tube trains will not stop at Oxford Circus today and Victoria Line services will be disrupted due to the fire at Oxford Circus station.

No trains will run between Warren Street and Victoria, but there will be a service every six minutes between Victoria and Victoria and a five-minute service between Warren Street and Walthamstow. Central Line services to Oxford Circus will not be affected.

Fire Report—P8

6 HURT BY BLAST

An explosion injured six people yesterday at the Salle Pleyel concert hall, Paris, as a dozen American cultural associations were preparing to put on their annual show.—A P.

GRENADE ATTACK

By Our Lisbon Correspondent
Four mortar grenades were thrown at the U.N. embassy complex in Lisbon from a passing motor vehicle yesterday.

Today's Weather

GENERAL SYNOPTIC: Ridge moving from W. Rather cold.
LONDON: Cx. S. & E. ENGLAND: Mildness: Scattered showers drying out, sunny spells. Winds W. mod. Max. 48F (9C).
S.E. ENGLAND, E. ANGLIA: Sunny spells, showers, heavy in places, drying out. Winds N. backing W. mod. to fresh. 43F (6C).
S.W. ENGLAND: Sunny spells, isolated showers at first. Winds W. light or mod., becoming S. fresh. 48F (9C).
S. NORTH SEA, STRAIT OF DOVER: Winds W. backing S.W. 4 or 5. Sea slight or mod.
E. OCEAN (E.): N.W. backing S.W. 4. Slight.
ST. GEORGE'S CAY, JUBA SEA: W. 4 backing S. 6-7 to 8. Slight becoming rough.
OUTLOOK: Milder, rain spreading to all areas. Very windy.
Weather Maps—P26

Minister sees famine misery at relief camp

By R. BARRY O'BRIEN in Ethiopia

A CHILD and an old man died in the famine relief centre at Korem, north Ethiopia, while it was visited yesterday by Mr Timothy Raison, Minister for Overseas Development.

The child died moments after Mr Raison walked through a long shed of corrugated sheeting serving as a hospital ward, filled with pitiful figures of all ages squatting or huddled in blankets, crying, moaning and coughing.

A man picked up the body and carried it out wrapped in a blanket, followed by the sobbing mother, to a makeshift mortuary where the body was tied into a bundle for burial.

Minutes later, in another part of the vast camp containing 30,000 famine victims, an elderly man died.

On Saturday, 26 people died in the camp, but relief workers said yesterday that death tolls were decreasing. Last month it was running at an average of 50 a day.

Mercy flight

Mr Raison, who arrived in Addis Ababa yesterday for three days of visits to famine areas and talks with Ethiopian officials, travelled aboard a Royal Air Force Famine Relief flight to a dusty airstrip at Alamata.

The C-130 Hercules, labelled "Mercy Flight", was loaded with high-protein biscuits containing milk, soya bean and wheat protein, fat, carbohydrates, iron, calcium and vitamins. They were a gift from World Vision of Australia.

Ethiopian relief workers, some carrying Russian AK-47 automatic rifles, transferred the cartons of biscuits onto a large Russian truck heading for Korem.

Mr Raison then made a bumpy 12-mile journey in a four-wheel drive field car on a stony mountain road, climbing 3,000 feet through a rocky gorge to the village of Korem and the famine camp outside.

Below freezing

The rugged ascent by winding hairpin bends, the engine straining from loss of power through the high altitude, showed the punishing journey for relief trucks carrying food 350 miles from the Red Sea port of Assab to Ethiopia's drought-stricken northern highlands.

The famine camp on flat 8,000 feet high tableland encircled by mountains showed the size of the catastrophe.

At first sight it resembled a military camp, with neat rows of tents formed by plastic sheeting on poles. But there are tents for only some of the multitude gathered there.

Thousands are living and

dying in the open on the dusty plain, where the night temperature drops below freezing.

Dr Brigitte Vasset, 32, leader of the medical team from the French group Medecins Sans Frontieres which is running the rudimentary camp hospital, told Mr Raison: "People are dying every day just because of the cold. We need tents and warm clothes and blankets, blankets, blankets. 30,000 of them."

"The situation was catastrophic in August and September," said Dr Vasset, who has been working at Korem for seven months. "Now it is better, only because we have got food. But if the food does not keep coming regularly there will be another catastrophe."

"The camp is full of disease and infection, but giving people drugs does no good if they do not have food," she said.

Miss Judith Appleton, a nutritionist from Save the Children Fund, told the Minister: "The people coming in here are destitute. They have sold the timber of their houses. They must have shelter as well as food. They are using up the calories we try to give."

Continued on Back P. Col 6

TELECOM RUSH COULD TOP 2m

By Our Business Correspondent

Almost a million people have applied for British Telecom shares with two days to go before the £3.9 billion flotation closes. The final total could exceed two million.

But thousands of forms are being returned because they have been completed wrongly.

City report—P21

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from income ☐ Lump Sum ☐ Income + Lump Sum ☐

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SENIOR 'REBEL' AT GCHQ SEEKS RETIREMENT

By MAURICE WEAVER Industrial Staff

MR DENNIS MITCHELL, a senior specialist at the Government communications centre at Cheltenham and one of six appellants named in last week's House of Lords ruling, has written to Mr Peter Marychurch, GCHQ director, asking for early retirement.

He is the first of the six "test case" appellants, on whom the case against the union ban at GCHQ

has been built, to indicate a desire to quit the fight.

AUSTIN TO PRESS CASE IN COURT

By Our Industrial Staff

AUSTIN Rover confirmed last night that it is to pursue its contempt action in the High Court today against the transport workers' union and the white-collar engineers' union AUEW (TASS).

The Transport and General Workers' Union, meanwhile, reaffirmed its decision to ignore the High Court hearing and any penalties it might impose.

Mr Ronald Todd, the union's general secretary-elect, said: "We will not be in court and we will not recognise any fines. Quite simply, the union rules do not authorise officials to sign the cheques for such fines levied under the industrial laws."

The union, Britain's biggest, is therefore refusing to make any move to purge its alleged contempt in making the strike official, even though its 15,000 strong grassroots membership at Austin Rover chose to return to normal working last week.

Left-wing leadership

If contempt is proved and fines levied, the likely course of events would seem to be a repeat of the South Wales National Union of Mineworkers' saga with the sequestration of the transport workers' union's assets.

If Austin Rover decide then to pursue action for damages, the union could be liable to be ordered to pay up to £250,000 towards the cost of the 2½ week stoppage.

Both the unions now facing contempt action have a predominantly left-wing leadership. But AUEW (TASS) intends to be legally represented in the High Court today and to fight the case against it.

CRIME INCREASES

Crime in the Thames Valley rose by 6.1 per cent in the first nine months of this year, with the biggest increase in the area's 72,113 recorded offences coming from criminal damage, burglaries, arson and thefts from motor vehicles, according to the latest report from Mr Peter Imbert, Chief Constable.



'SELL BACK HOMES' DILEMMA

By Our Political Staff

THOUSANDS of tenants who bought system-built Airey houses from their councils, and then won the right to sell them back when defects appeared, have learned that they must decide on the sale by this Thursday because of an unpublished change in the law.

Under an Environment Department circular issued in February 1983, they were given until next September to make the decision. But the Housing Damage Act, which has been passed since and takes effect on Thursday, does not provide for councils to repurchase Airey houses.

About 18,000 Airey houses, of pre-cast concrete and steel frame, were built in the early 1950s, and 5,000 have been sold to tenants under the Government's "right-to-buy" legislation.

When structural defects began to appear Mr John Fiddie, Conservative MP for Mid-Staffordshire and now chairman of the party's Local Government Committee, campaigned for tenants who had bought Airey houses to be given special assistance.

They were offered 90 per cent repair grants — a scheme which will be reviewed in a Commons debate tomorrow night — or the option of repurchase by the council they had bought from.

Many of the occupiers decided to wait until the last minute to sell back their homes, so as not to forfeit the discount they had been granted when they bought them in the first place. Under the law this discount — around £1,500 in the case of Airey houses — had to be paid back if the houses were sold again in five years, and for most buyers September is outside that deadline.

A drinker (right) arguing with a member of the Lord's Day Observance Society in Belfast yesterday after the RUC had closed 30 pubs that opened in defiance of the law. Publicans throughout the province are trying to get the law changed to allow Sunday opening, which is confined to private drinking clubs.

Edwardes 'must earn confidence of unions'

By OUR INDUSTRIAL STAFF

SIR Michael Edwardes, chairman of Dunlop, is warned by the company's trade union leaders in a statement today that he will have to earn their confidence after the years of "despair and discord" within the company.

The unions intend to call on Sir Michael to set up a joint management-union "national forum" to discuss the company's future.

Union requests for such a forum have been rejected by the old management on three occasions in two years. Mr David Warburton, secretary of the Dunlop joint unions committee, said: "The workforce had lost faith in the company's former leadership whose management had been 'disastrous'."

In a document which sets out to be a trade union indictment of Sir Campbell Fraser's outgoing management team, the committee says it welcomes the boardroom "shake-out."

Short mandate

Mr Warburton, national officer of the General Municipal and Boilermakers' Union, said: "The captain of the Titanic could not have picked a better team of look-outs."

Mr Warburton said he and his union colleagues did not single out Sir Maurice Hodg-

son, the immediate past chairman, for criticism "because he stepped in in order that Fraser should quickly go. Hodgson had a short mandate anyway."

Sir Maurice, who made clear that he disagreed with Sir Michael's policies, has resigned. These policies have included the removal of four executive directors and the demotion of two others from directors to managers.

RUBBISH TIP BURIAL FOR BEACHED WHALE

The final resting place of Beahill's washed-up whale is to be the town's rubbish tip. Remnants of the 30-ton, 40-foot-long carcass beached in the height of a storm on Friday were taken from the town's East Parade in a lorry.

It took two giant JCBs to lift the jaw and upper half on to a low trailer. The rest of it was cut into sections for its journey to the tip at Pesham, on the Beahill-Hastings border.

A spokesman for Rother District Council said that the huge jaw bones would go to the marine biology department at Kent University.

Coal Board members mainly part-timers

By MAURICE WEAVER Industrial Staff

OF the 10 members of the National Coal Board, which has responsibility for managing the industry, four are full-timers.

The remaining six, all of whom are selected and appointed by the Energy Secretary, are part-time members chosen for their specialist qualifications.

The four full-time Board members are: Mr Ian MacGregor (Chairman); Mr James Cowan (Deputy Chairman); Mr Brian Harrison (Member for Finance); and Mr Merrick Spanton (Member for Personnel).

The six part-time members are: Mr Colin Barker, Chairman of the British Technology Group and former managing director (Finance) of the British Steel Corporation;

Mr David Donne, a lawyer, Chairman of Steeltek plc and Dalgetty plc;

Mr Tommy MacPherson, director of Birmid Qualcast;

Mr Peter Michael, deputy chairman of UEL plc;

Mr David Newbiggin, until recently Chairman and Chief Executive of Jardine Matheson;

Sir Melvin Rosser, a chartered accountant, a partner in Deloitte, Hoskins and Sells. Their pay in 1983-84 is shown

in the Board's accounts to total £247,884. Mr MacGregor, as chairman, was not the highest paid, receiving £38,651 compared with the highest paid Board member's £80,916.

The accounts do not divulge who the highest paid member was but it is assumed to be Mr Cowan.

Other salaries are shown as ranging between £30,000 and £55,000. But the majority of Board members (the part-timers) receive less than £5,000 for their services.

Mr MacGregor's pay is exclusive of the sums paid by the Energy Department to Lazard Freres of New York in consideration of his release. The payment of the latest tranche, estimated at about £700,000, to cover Mr MacGregor's term as chairman, has been postponed to avoid a potential public furor in view of the Coal Board's present troubles.

Mr BILL GOODE

Mr Bill Goode, National Union of Mineworkers agent for Gwent, was reported in the DAILY TELEGRAPH on Saturday as saying he had been told it was a mistake to name him as a member of the union who dangled a noose in front of Mr Norman Willis, TUC General Secretary, at a recent miners' rally. In fact, Mr Goode said: "I have been told it was not an N.U.M. member who lowered the

Hattersley faces test with Left

By NICHOLAS COMFORT Political Staff

MR ROY HATTERSLEY undergoes the first critical test of his authority as deputy Labour leader today when the Commons debates the curbing of benefits to strikers' families — the issue over which demonstrators forced the abandonment of last Wednesday's sitting.

With Mr Kimmo away in Moscow, it was left to his deputy to urge Labour MPs to avoid any repetition of that night's vehement scenes during today's debate, and let the "meanness" of the Government's ruling speak for itself.

Mr Eric Heffer, one of the leaders of Wednesday's protest, is unrepentant at their action. He said yesterday that they were ready to demonstrate against future Government actions of the same type "within good Parliamentary practice."

But the signs are that Mr Hattersley's appeal for order and unity will be observed today.

Tribune attack

Mr Hattersley is not down to speak in today's debate, which will be opened by Mr Michael Meacher, Shadow Social Services Secretary, but any breach of discipline would be taken as a reflection on his authority given the views he expressed at last Thursday's party meeting in question.

With Mr Heffer yesterday promising further Left-wing challenges regardless of the party's official strategy, some MPs are suggesting that Mr Kimmo will return to find his own authority in question.

This view is reinforced by a fierce attack on Mr Kimmo in *Tarzan*, which accused him of betraying the striking miners.

PIT SQUAD IN 800 INCIDENTS

Nearly 800 incidents have been dealt with by Nottinghamshire's special Intimidation Squad, set up to investigate attacks on both working and striking miners.

More than 250 men now face prosecution as a result of the efforts of the 12-strong squad, which was set up in 1983. It is to be set up in Britain, Det. Insp. Tony Finch said yesterday.

MINERS CLAIM WORLD RECORD

Four miners in central Yugoslavia are claiming a world record after logging coal non-strikes for 100 consecutive days. The leader of the miners, who went to the Guinness Book of Records, said: "We wished to show leaders how long one can work." —AP.

TUC 'OUT OF TOUCH' WITH MEMBERS

By Our Business Correspondent

More than one-in-three trade unionists canvassed for their views on the TUC believes the organisation is rapidly losing its ability to reflect the interests of members, according to a survey based on replies from 500 managers and trade union leaders involved in industrial relations.

It also shows that a majority believes the CBI has lost its influence on Government policies.

The study was carried out by Epic Industrial Communications, a firm specialising in providing advice to companies about improving relations with employees. Sixty-two per cent of those surveyed were critical about the TUC, 84 per cent of them managers and 36 per cent trade unionists.

CONSUMER GUIDE FOR DIRECTORS

By Our Business Correspondent

Directors are urged in a guide out today to take consumer protection more seriously and are warned that they could face fines or imprisonment for negligence.

The guide, from the Institute of Directors to its 30,000 members, says: "Customers are the foundation on which all business rests. It is not good business to injure them or upset them." It points out that directors may be personally liable for offences committed by employees.

Pensions increase as State welfare nears £40bn

By DAVID FLETCHER Social Services Correspondent

PENSIONS and all other social security benefits go up from today in a controversial uprating, which will lift the cost of state welfare to a record of nearly £40 billion, almost one third of all public spending.

The increases have given rise to the greatest controversy for years because they include deductions of an extra £1 from benefits for strikers' families and reduction of £1 in payments for heating old peoples' homes.

On the positive side, pensions will go up by 5.1 per cent, slightly ahead of the expected rate of inflation in coming months, lifting the single person's pension to £35.80 and the couple's pension to £57.30.

Child benefit will rise by 35p a week to £6.85 and unemployment benefit will go up by £1.40 for a single person to £28.45 and by £2.25 to £46 a week for a married couple.

There is special help for the very old with a 15 per cent improvement in the age allowance for war widows and automatic help with heating for supplementary benefit recipients over the age of 85.

Pensioners angry

But the £1 cut in heating allowances, imposed on all those who receive the long-term rate of supplementary benefit irrespective of age, has angered pensioners' organisations.

Age Concern, the national old people's welfare council, says that the heating cut means that pensioners will only be worth an extra 65p a week to thousands of pensioners.

In a letter to Mr Tony Newton, social security minister, it says that the rises are being greeted with disappointment, bitterness and despair by old people on supplementary pensions.

"They do not know how they will meet increased costs and inflation up to November 1985. Projections of increases will add further to the difficulties of these pensioners who are unable to heat their homes adequately."

The Child Poverty Action

Group is equally dissatisfied with the 35p rise in child benefit, and says that the benefit would now be £7.60 (instead of £8.95) if it had been raised in line with personal tax allowances.

"The difference of 75p a week is the price children are having to pay for a succession of anti-family budgets."

It claims that 200,000 families, costing about 400,000 children, will not benefit from the increase in family income supplement rates because of a change in the rules.

"Under the new rules, families will have to wait until the date when their claim is due for renewal for their benefit to be upgraded. As a consequence some families will be losing over £100 a year."

Protest rally

A new trades union-backed group called Action for Benefits is calling a protest rally and lobby of Parliament today to complain at what it says is a £6 billion cut in social security benefits since the Government came to power in 1979.

The group is already squaring up to oppose the recommendations set up by the Government to examine the future pattern of benefits and due to report in the New Year.

A statement by the group said: "The review boards are composed of hand-picked Government appointees and have been deliberately set up to deliver further cuts from those in need in order to add tax burdens to those least in need."

New rates of the main benefits (with current figures in brackets) are:

RETIREMENT PENSION: single person £35.80 (£34.05); married couple £57.30 (£54.50);

CHILD BENEFIT: £6.85 (£6.50);

SICKNESS BENEFIT: single person under pension age: £27.25 (£25.85); over pension age: £34.25 (£32.60);

MOBILITY ALLOWANCE: £20 (£19);

SUPPLEMENTARY BENEFIT: couple on ordinary rate: £45.55 (£43.50);

UNEMPLOYMENT BENEFIT: single person: £28.45 (£27.05); couple: £46 (£43.75).

Mortgage rate cut is blow to strikers

By Our City Staff

THE mortgage rate cut will leave less cash in the hands of striking miners who have been claiming interest payments from social security offices but failing to pay the money to their building societies.

This is a further financial squeeze on the strikers who, from next week, will have £1 docked from welfare benefit payments.

The social security system allows the State to pay strikers' families the interest that they should pay on their mortgages, but this is paid directly to the family not to the lender, and in some cases the families are keeping it, allowing the mortgage interest to roll-up.

Despite some MPs' pleas for social security interest payments to be made directly to lenders, no change in the law is imminent.

Not taking action

Building societies say that they are unable to assess to what extent miners' families may be receiving and keeping interest benefit, but they are all willingly suspending collection of mortgage payments from miners and others hit by the strike.

Mr Derek Toddington, mortgage manager of the Leeds Permanent Building Society, said last night: "We are not taking any action at all regarding miners. We're trying not to take sides, and it would be wrong for us to do so."

"We're just allowing interest to accrue, and when the strike's over, we'll just spread

the payments over future months."

Besides not wanting to antagonise the miners, who are regarded as very good customers in normal times, building societies are well aware that it would be futile to repossess miners' homes.

The eight-month strike and the financial hardship resulting has weakened considerably the property markets in many mining communities. Even if a society succeeded in repossessing a property without attracting retaliation, there is little prospect of achieving a sale in the short term, even if the price was cut substantially below its normal value.

Similarly, hire purchase companies are willingly allowing miners to suspend payments on items such as television sets, dent that they will be repaid in full once the strike ends. "They're as conscientious about their mortgages as any other part of the community," said Mr Toddington last night. "Many are trying to keep up payment of some sort somehow."

The societies' confidence is based on both the miners' past record as payers, and on the knowledge that in many cases the home loans are secured against houses worth many times more. Many miners bought their homes from the National Coal Board at discounts of 30 per cent, or so with mortgages sometimes of only about £3,000. Today the houses can be worth more than £10,000.

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CND DUCK VOTE ON 'RUSSIAN MISSILES' DEMO

By CHARLES LAURENCE

CND backed away from a commitment to campaign as strongly against Russian nuclear weapons as those held by Britain and Nato at its annual conference in Sheffield yesterday.

Delegates approved a constitutional ploy to avoid taking a vote on the resolution and instructed the ruling council to organise an anti-Soviet demonstration and produce leaflets on the Warsaw Pact arsenal.

Instead, they moved on to "next business" at the end of a debate described by Mrs Joan Ruddock, chairman, as "contentious" without voting.

Mrs Ruddock said: "It means that we have decided not to put this to the vote because there is a feeling of divisiveness."

But we are absolutely clear that we adhere to existing policy that leaves no doubt at all as to our absolute opposition to new deployments of the Soviet Union has undertaken in the Eastern bloc countries."

CND is to go ahead with "Operation Christmas Card" on Dec. 8, which involves demonstrating outside the Russian, Czech and East German embassies in London, and sending thousands of Christmas cards with a CND message to both officials and ordinary people in the Soviet bloc.

Principal opposition to the Russian campaign came from members of the Communist party of Great Britain.

Mr Ian Davison, a Communist and secretary of Scottish CND, put forward the "no-vote" ploy. He called the resolution "unfortunate, divisive and unnecessary," warning that if demonstrations were called, and failed to attract large numbers, it would be said that only a minority of CND members were opposed to Soviet weapons.

He also said that if his no-vote motion failed, delegates should vote for the resolution "or the Press will make mince-meat of us."

America mostly to blame

Mr Jon Bloomfield, another Communist, said that the "political thrust" of the resolution was wrong and that there were three principal views held within CND. That: "America was entirely to blame for the arms race and the Soviet Union could do no wrong."

Both sides were equally to blame. And his own view, which he said was in the majority, that America was mostly, but not entirely to blame.

It was this majority view that would be "squeezed" by an active campaign against the Soviets.

Mrs Mary Brennan, also a Communist, suggested the way forward was to have more contact with the Kremlin-sponsored official Peace Committees, while another delegate, Mr Tom Cluibert, from Rugby, thought CND's real task lay in teaching people that the "danger comes from the superpower which is occupying Britain now."

CND moderates behind the plan described it as "politically vital" to be seen to be equally opposed to both Soviet and Nato arms.

Miss Mary Gill, of Oxford, said: "We must show that we are not pro or anti Soviet or American, but against all the weapons that threaten all of us."

Prof. E. P. Thompson, founder of the European Nuclear Dis-

armament Campaign (ENAD), said it had never been CND policy to take sides.

"What do you think you are doing? Making the world safe for Soviet nuclear weapons? We want to sweep away all the existence of the nuclear weapons."

Mrs Ruddock said the CND would always contain divisions because it was a broadly based movement with room for those of all political persuasions. The conference had wanted to explore this division without commitment to one side or the other.

"We are not pro-Soviet, we are not influenced by them and we are a campaign that looks objectively at developments in the nuclear arms race," she said.

Other policies put forward at the conference included: Stopping up the campaign against Trident missile development.

Publicising the argument that nuclear weapons should be deemed illegal under international conventions as weapons of mass and indiscriminate destruction.

And working on ways to convert the arms industry to "socially useful production" without the loss of jobs.

Worried about 'police thugs'

One of CND's successes recently has been in developing contacts with trades unions, and the conference was told that numerous groups have been set up with shop stewards within the arms industry to campaign against accepting arms contracts and put forward alternative products.

Delegates were concerned with civil liberties, claiming that "police thugs," as one speaker called them, were preventing them from exercising their rights to demonstrate peacefully. They feared that the Police and Criminal Evidence Bill will be used to clamp down on "dissidents" of the anti-nuclear movement, and passed a resolution aligning CND with the National Council for Civil Liberties in campaigning against the Bill.

Elections for officers and seats on the ruling council saw a slight shift away from the extreme Left, with two Communists, Mr Davison and Mrs Bloomfield, losing their seats on the council, and Prof. Mike Pentz, a former Communist local government candidate, quitting his post as vice-chairman.

Three of the four vice-chairmen of CND are Labour party members and one a "Socialist feminist." There are now two Communist party members among the 20 council members elected at conference. The CND regions send another 100 to council, while among others with known political affiliations, there are eight Labour party members, five "Socialists," some with links to Trotskyist organisations, one member of the Ecology party, and one from Christian CND.

Mr Michael Meadowcroft, Liberal MP, was also voted onto the council.

Editorial Comment—P18

Cruise village 'will not be another Greenham'

By JOHN SHAW

THE Government had plans to prevent "another Greenham" at RAF Molesworth, the Cambridgeshire site of the second cruise missile base in Britain. Mr John Major, Conservative MP for Huntingdon, told worried villagers at the weekend.

It had "learned a lot" from the protest at Greenham Common, Berkshire. "We didn't like what we saw there and after the fence is put up at Molesworth, arrangements will be made to prevent another Greenham in this area."

He declined to reveal details of the plans of the eviction of 100 peace protesters already camped on the site which would take place in 1988.

The site is in a very rural area and villagers fear their way of life will be changed

COUPLE DEAD AFTER ROW

Police last night refused to disclose the cause of death of a young couple whose bodies were found in a Birmingham house on Saturday. They were named as Margaret Kendall, 27, of Carmodale Road, Great Barr, and John Meade, 25, of Bayswater Road, Aston, Birmingham.

The bodies were found at Miss Kendall's house after neighbours heard the couple arguing. Police said no other person was being sought and an inquest would open tomorrow.

صحنات الاحل



Rapt concentration from Miss Ange Stephens as she demonstrates fire-walking—soon to be introduced in this country.

Just the odd blister in fire-walking fad

By IAN BRODIE in Los Angeles

THERE will be a London try out next month for the ancient ritual of fire-walking, now considered to be the latest path to self improvement by leaders of the so-called "Human Potential" movement in California.

The fad will be introduced to Britain by Miss Ange Stephens, originally from Wetherby in Yorkshire, who has been taking a course in America on how to be a fire-walk instructor.

The other evening near Los Angeles she led a group of more than 40 barefoot participants as they strode through an 8ft pit of burning embers with a temperature of 1,500 degrees Fahrenheit. None suffered more than the odd blister.

It was Miss Stephens's fifth fire-walk since she introduced to the idea two months ago. She explained: "After ten years of leading self-awareness workshops, I knew fire-walking was another experience for opening and expanding people."

'Burns in seconds'

"But it's a risky business. People could get third-degree burns in two seconds. If you're going to walk you really have to concentrate. Then it's a miracle of the power of the mind over matter."

"Sometimes the coals feel cool and other times no hotter than walking on hot sand." Why has this idea from Oriental and primitive cultures suddenly caught on in modern America? Miss Stephens said there is much more to fire-walking than just hot-footing it through glowing coals.

"I think people are hungry to find out more meaning in their lives. It came as a big surprise to me to know I could walk on fire."

Her inaugural British fire-walks will be in London in mid-December and will cost £50 per person. Negotiations are continuing to find a venue that has both a lecture room and space outside for a bonfire.

Miss Stephens is a student of Mr Tolly Burkan, founding guru of the new fire-walking craze in California. Formerly Tolly the Circus Magician, he was introduced to the idea by a friend who learnt it from Tibetan Buddhists.

Inner wisdom

As Mr Burkan tells it the experience is an immediate avenue to discovering unlimited possibilities, setting and reaching goals, revealing inner wisdom and above all overcoming fear.

Bouncing with energy he conducted a breezy three-hour build-up to last week's fire-walk. He did a few tricks from his magician days and called on his pupils to make the standard "Whyl-am-her" declarations required of group therapy.

Then, with shoes and socks removed, they all filed out to the fire pit. They stood in a circle and chanted: "Release your mind/see what you find."

They made one, two, three, sometimes four quick steps through the remains of olive loes, burning bright red in the crisp night air. Time on the coals for each walker: barely a second and a half.

How is it done? Mr Burkan says he cannot explain it, other than a chemical change coming over the body through the power of the brain. "We aren't contradicting any law of the universe, we simply don't understand all those laws."

There has been little scientific research, but one theory holds that the feet have a cushion of surface moisture which vaporizes to form an insulating cushion of steam for the very short duration of the walk.

ILEA's modern maths adds up to integration

By MARGOT NORMAN Education Staff

THE term "modern maths" is being given a new twist by the Inner London Education Authority which is working out ways in which mathematics lessons can be pressed into service of the authority's anti-racist drive.

The new lessons will be ready for schools next September.

Out will go old-fashioned problems like the length of time it takes three workmen to dig a three-foot hole.

And in will come problems about the relative earning power of black South African miners to whites, unemployment among different British ethnic groups, and the official statistics on unemployment, muggings and other crime.

The move on maths follows anti-racist drives by ILEA in history, geography, English and home economics.

Nothing at all

Mr Eurup Singh, one of the maths teachers involved in the project, said: "It's worrying that pupils, even at fourth and fifth form level, don't understand the statistics used in newspapers and on television to illustrate such things as unemployment."

Apart from fulfilling their anti-racist brief Mr Singh and his colleagues want to take up the Government-backed Cocker Report's observation that "many maths lessons are about nothing at all," and make them "relevant."

Asked if all ILEA schools would be required to use the new lessons, Mr Singh, who has been seconded from the Lillian Baylis School in South London, said: "We obviously have no power to force teachers to use them. I expect it will be left up to ourselves and the authority's advisers to disseminate them."

Miss Dawn Gill, a geography teacher in the team, said it was dangerous to isolate examples from the new materials as they might be misinterpreted.

"This is not a socialist bias; what we're talking about is combating racism," she said. "Even in maths, you can't understand racism outside the context of imperialism and colonialism."

"For instance, you can look at 18th century trade statistics to look at the way India's cotton industry was destroyed and Lancashire's cotton industry was built up."

Science next

"It all helps to counteract the picture white children have of Third World countries through agencies like Oxfam, a picture of poverty, helplessness, no industry and so on."

An ILEA spokesman said that science would be the next subject under the anti-racist microscope.

There was no question of making all lessons focus on social and racial issues; this was merely a thread running through all subjects, and the ILEA believed all subjects could do their part in counter-acting racial prejudice.

Latest Wills—P14

WOMAN'S £2m WILL

Mrs Barbara Burton, of Castlebar, Wetherby, West Yorkshire, who died in May, left £2,428,199 net (£2,478,225 gross) in her will published at the weekend. She left £50,000 to the National Society for Cancer Relief, and the remainder mostly to relatives.



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SHULTZ TALKS WITH GROMYKO 'BREAKING ICE'

By DAVID SHEARS in Washington

PRESIDENT REAGAN'S top national security adviser dismissed as "absurd" yesterday the suggestion that Government moderates and hard-liners were still deeply split on plays for the American-Russian arms-control talks due to open on Jan. 7-8.

On the contrary, Mr Robert McFarlane claimed in a television interview, the work was "about 85 per cent complete." If Russia would deal in good faith, there was "great promise for progress."

He gave this estimate of the forthcoming Geneva encounter between Mr Shultz, Secretary of State, and Mr Gromyko, Soviet Foreign Minister, as President Reagan headed back to Washington from a week-long Thanksgiving holiday on his Californian ranch.

The Geneva meeting is viewed in Washington as an ice-breaking session to discuss ways of breaking the impasse on missile negotiations that has lasted for a year.

Mr McFarlane made it clear America would offer no concessions to Russia in advance of the talks. Specifically he brushed aside Moscow's demand for a moratorium on Nato deployment of cruise and Pershing missiles in Europe.

But he confirmed that America would be willing to discuss mutual restraints on space weaponry once negotiations began.

During Mr Reagan's first four-year term American arms-control policy was largely stymied by Right-wing resistance, notably within the civilian leadership of the Pentagon, to State Department proposals for a flexible negotiating strategy.

Asked about this yesterday, Mr McFarlane said all the Government departments concerned had been working for

months on the issues involved. The analysis to support serious negotiations in the fields of long-range and medium-range weapons was already "on the shelf," and it was nearly complete in the case of space systems.

But he said that Mr Reagan would still have to choose between options reflecting "the richest diversity of opinion."

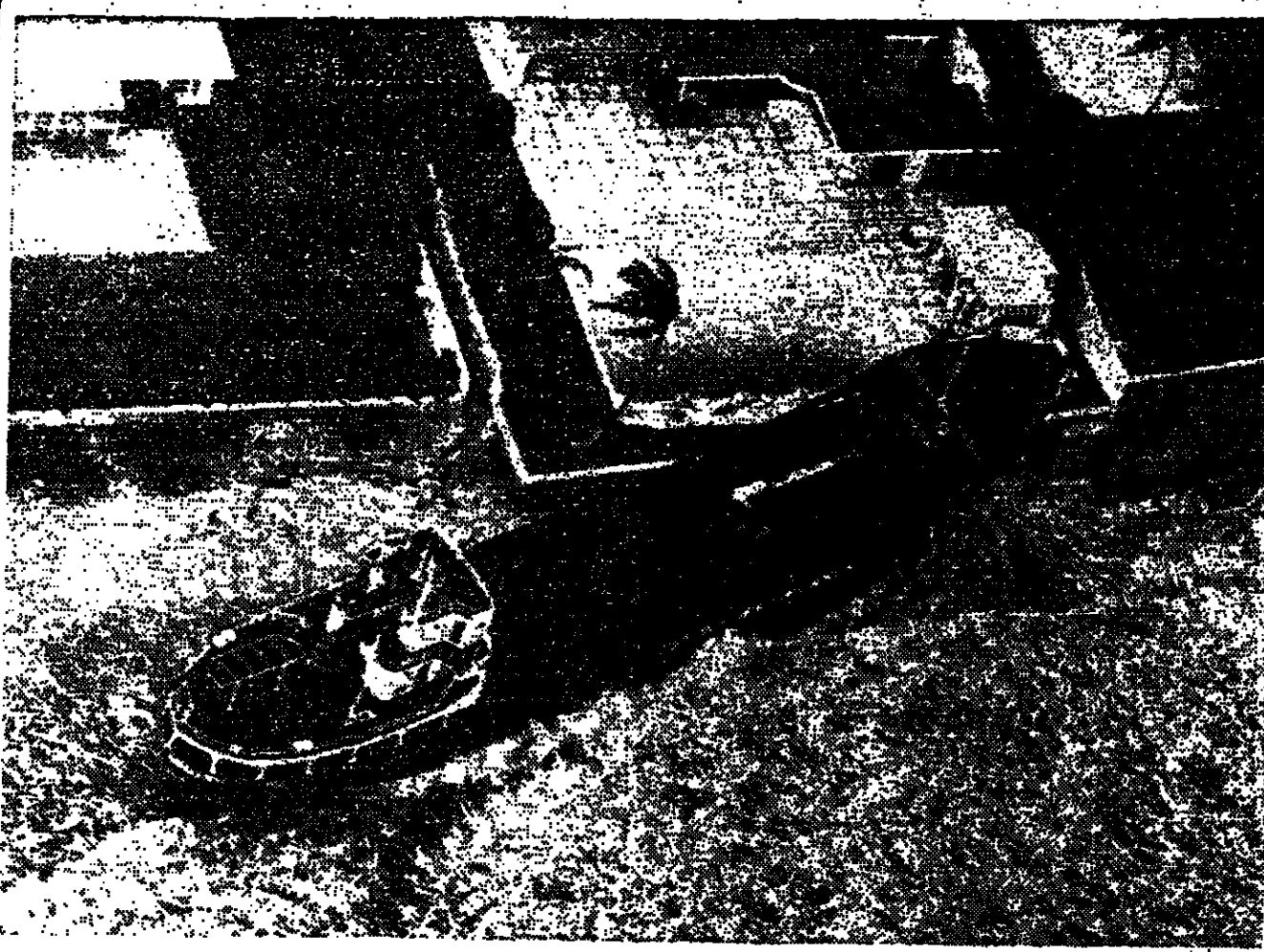
Mr McFarlane denied this would lead to paralysis in policy-making, and he predicted "You are going to see one of the most agile arms-control decision-making processes in the history of this country."

The White House national security adviser did not check speculation that Mr Paul Nitze, who led the United States team in the medium-range missile talks in Geneva, would be appointed "special envoy" responsible for co-ordinating arms-control strategy.

But he did not confirm outright that Mr Nitze would be chosen.

Many arms-control experts in Washington still favour Mr Nitze's "walk in the woods" formula worked out informally during a stroll with his Soviet opposite number in countryside near Geneva.

Under this America would abandon deployment of Pershing 2 missiles in Europe in return for severe limits on Russia's force of SS-20 missiles targeted on the West.



The bow of the Mercedes I, a 230-ft Venezuelan cargo ship, almost in the swimming pool of a house at Palm Beach, Florida, after the storm-lashed seas had tossed her ashore. The crew walked to safety.

Canada cuts back on immigrants

By ERIC DOWD in Toronto

CANADA'S new Conservative Government will cut immigration by 6 per cent next year to preserve available jobs for Canadians at a time of high unemployment.

The Government of Prime Minister Brian Mulroney, faced with a jobless rate of 11.3 per cent, has set a quota of between 85,000 and 90,000 immigrants from 1985, continuing a policy of gradually tightening restrictions on immigration.

Canada allowed in 145,117 immigrants as recently as 1980 and in the post-war peak year of 1967 permitted 222,878 to settle. The record was more than 400,000 in 1915.

Last year 6,618 immigrants were from Britain and the new restrictions further decrease Britons' hopes of emigrating to Canada.

Canada, because of high unemployment, since 1982 has had a basic policy of admitting immigrants of working age only if they have a pre-arranged job, which no Canadian can be found to fill.

There are exceptions for close family of those already here, refugees and entrepreneurs who can bring enough money to establish business and create jobs.

The government says it will step up efforts next year to recruit such wealthy immigrants in Hongkong, where many are anxious to leave

before the British colony reverts to Chinese rule.

The Government, however, will restrict the number of entrepreneurial immigrants to 2,208, the same as this year. Some immigrant groups criticised the cut in immigration saying people who come to settle in Canada create jobs rather than take them away from Canadians.

126 JUMP SHIP

By Our Staff Correspondent in Bonn

A further 126 Polish tourists have jumped ship in the West German Baltic port of Lübeck-Travemünde, bringing to 428 the number who have defected there and in Hamburg in the past week.

URUGUAY VOTES OUT MILITARY

By CRISTINA BONASEGNA in Buenos Aires

JUBILANT Uruguayans went to the polls yesterday in national elections to end 11 years of authoritarian military rule.

More than two million Uruguayans are eligible to vote for a Presidential candidate from the country's three parties: the traditional Blanco and Colorado parties, and the Broad Front, a coalition of Left-wing parties set up in 1971.

More than 40,000 Uruguayans living in exile in neighbouring Brazil and Argentina crowded airports and bus and ferry stations this weekend to join fellow nationals in the election for President, Vice-President, 130 Congressmen, and 19 mayors.

The Colorado party, which held power until a military coup in 1973, is running two candidates. The favourite is Senator Julio Sanguinetti, 48, a lawyer.

The Blanco party named Senator Alberto Zambrano, 44, also a lawyer, for the Presidential ticket as the party's popular leader Senator Wilson Ferreira, remains in jail after his arrest last June on his return from exile.

Although both parties lead the running for the Presidency, opinion polls give the Broad Front a great chance of placing the Mayor of Montevideo, the country's capital housing almost half the population.

Worst crisis

The Broad Front groups Communists, Socialists, Christian Democrats and Independents. The Front's candidate is Dr Juan Crotogudi, 76.

The coalition's leader, Gen. Liber Seregni, 67, was banned from running for two years after his release from jail last March. He had been arrested in 1973 for voicing opposition to the military.

The winning party will have the task of steering the country, once known as the "Switzerland of Latin America," through its worst economic crisis.

Foreign debt stands at \$5.5 billion (£4.5 billion), equal to about \$1,800 (£1,475) per head, and unemployment has been officially put at 15 per cent.

Human rights groups have described the military government as one of Latin America's most totalitarian.

'GIVEAWAY' VOTE Focus on Falklands

Argentines lined up to vote yesterday in referendum on the proposed ceding of Beagle Channel islands to Chile, ending a century-old border dispute.

President Alfonsín said ending the "absurd" dispute would enable Argentina to look for a solution to the "more serious issue" of the Falkland Islands.

EX-KING TO HAND OVER GREEK ESTATES

By Our Athens Correspondent

Former King Constantine of the Hellenes, who lives in exile in England, is negotiating the transfer of his palace estates to the Athens government in a compromise settlement over his tax dues.

Mr Gerasimos Arsenis, Greece's Minister of Finance, said that negotiations had been continuing for several months in secrecy. Adonis Stavrakas, the King's representative and comptroller-general for his properties flew to London on Friday for weekend talks.

Sources close to the talks said that the formula being negotiated is for three palace estates to be taken over by the State, but the deposed King would be allowed to keep 400 acres of the Tatou Summer Palace Estate on the outskirts of Athens, which will include the Royal residence itself and the family graves and chapel.

Syrian support 'a dagger in the back of Palestine'

THE Palestine National Council meeting in Amman heard yesterday the most violent attack to date on Syria as sponsor of a boycott by those who oppose Yasser Arafat, the PLO leader.

"Syrian support is like a poisoned dagger in the back of Palestine," said Jassem Alwan, a former Syrian Cabinet Minister now in exile.

Alwan, one of several guest speakers, told the Council that thousands of Communist, Leftist, and Moslem militants were being tortured in Syrian jails, and he accused the Syrian security forces of massacring opponents.

The presence of an exiled opposition figure from an Arab country is rare at the Palestine National Council and Palestinian sources said it showed the depth of feeling against Syria, backer of the rebels who drove Arafat out of Lebanon last year.

Syria has campaigned against the Amman meeting being held, demanding that Arafat first be dismissed from leadership of the Palestine Liberation Organisation.

Alwan's comments contrasted sharply with a statement by Arafat, who said in public by Arafat and his "Foreign Minister," Farouk Kaddoumi.

Kaddoumi blamed Syria for the 18-month-old rebellion by PLO dissidents, and said it was an attempt to make the PLO into a Syrian puppet. But he said the PLO needed the good ties with Damascus and reaffirmed its readiness for dialogue.

Members from America Arafat has moved to ensure his margin of support in the Palestine National Council by adding 15 members from the Palestinian communities in North and South America. Bringing the total of active members to 335.

A member of the central committee of Arafat's dominant Fatah guerrilla group, Hani al-Hasan, meanwhile gave a clear indication that the current session would avoid pronouncing on key issues.

The council's session, notwithstanding the Syrian-backed boycott, has received scores of messages of support, albeit nine from the Soviet Union so far.

Editorial comment—P18

France playing down Mitterrand Syria visit

By MICHAEL FIELD in Damascus

PRESIDENT MITTERRAND flies to Damascus today for a two-day official visit to Syria, but the Chad fiasco has somewhat reduced his credibility, casting doubts over the impact of a French diplomatic initiative in the Middle East.

His two meetings today and tomorrow with President Hafez Al-Assad are now being given a somewhat lower profile by the Elysee Palace than had at first been forecast.

Officials are at pains to stress that M. Mitterrand's visit is more than just a fact-gathering trip though to call it an "initiative" would be "imprudent."

Three conflicts This is the first visit to Syria by a French Head of State since the former mandated territory's independence. Mr Assad visited France in 1976 and there have been numerous ministerial visits on both sides.

The French "excursion" is designed to supplement M. Mitterrand's earlier visits to Saudi Arabia, Egypt, Israel and Jordan. He is said to feel that it is both necessary and useful for him to talk to Mr Assad.

However he comes, he says, not "to lay down the law" to the Syrians, but to sound them out, situated as they are at the heart of the "three conflicts" in the Arab world: the Arab-Israeli confrontation, and the Gulf War.

The two leaders are said to have "much to say to each other." Presumably this will include international terrorism.

"France does not have a short memory," according to the Elysee spokesman. It is thus likely that M. Mitterrand will refer to the murder in Beirut, in 1981, of M. Louis Delamare, the French Ambassador and last year's killing of French soldiers in the Lebanese capital.

There were strong indications of Syrian involvement in both atrocities.

Together with Syrian irritation at French support for Iraq in the Gulf War — Syria is on the side of Iran — this makes a curious background to a "friendly State visit."

Pensions and child benefits at your post office.

The industrial dispute at the DHSS continues. This has created much more work at post office counters and therefore longer queues — particularly on Tuesdays and Thursdays.

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- * Payment of pensions and allowances at new rates.
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- * Christmas/New Year early payments.

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The Royal Bank of Scotland Mortgage Rates

The Royal Bank of Scotland plc announces that with effect from 3 December, 1984, its Mortgage Rate will be reduced to 11½ per cent per annum and its Endowment Mortgage Rate will be reduced to 12½ per cent per annum.

BREAKTHROUGH CLOSE ON GIBRALTAR

By ALAN OSBORN Common Market Correspondent

THERE are now clear signs that an agreement on the future of Gibraltar is close after a year of intensive negotiations between Britain and Spain.

Sir Geoffrey Howe, Foreign Secretary, meets his Spanish counterpart, Señor Fernando Moran in Brussels today in what could be the breakthrough. The two have met about six times in the past year.

Each time both sides have expressed satisfaction at progress made by officials.

Britain is anxious to secure the earliest possible opening of the border between Gibraltar and Spain and specifically wants Madrid to implement the 1981 Lisbon Agreement permitting free movement.

Spain, in pursuit of its sovereignty ambitions, has made only very limited concessions so far. Only strictly restricted categories of pedestrians are at present allowed to cross.

But Madrid has become increasingly concerned in recent months about the delay in completing negotiations for Spanish entry into the Common Market.

Britain is potentially its strongest ally in moves to overcome the deep-rooted obstacles posed by the entry of Spanish wine producers and fishermen into the Community.

Ease pressures

These obstacles, again to be discussed by EEC Foreign Ministers today, now clearly threaten the scheduled date of January 1, 1986, for Spanish and Portuguese entry.

The Gibraltar deal which now seems to be emerging would provide for the opening of the border next spring, allowing Spanish workers to live and seek work in Gibraltar though subject to some restrictions.

With implementation of the Lisbon Agreement this would help lift economic pressures on Gibraltar and at the same time remove a source of friction in the overall EEC entry negotiations.

But one of the major problems still to be settled apparently is Spain's claim to ultimate sovereignty over the Rock.

Recent comments by Señor Moran have suggested Spain is now taking a much softer line, though for domestic political reasons the Government in Madrid may want to see the claim formally repeated as

part of any agreement with Britain.

The bilateral meeting on Gibraltar will take place at the same time as EEC Foreign Ministers try to agree on terms to offer Spain relating to wine and fish.

With wine production in chronic surplus in the Community, France is anxious to curb further exports before Spain and Portugal join. But it is in sharp disagreement with Italy, the other main producer, over how to achieve this.

Fish is potentially even more troublesome. The Spaniards are enthusiastic fishermen and eager to exploit the EEC's rich waters.

But Britain, France, Denmark, Germany and Ireland are uneasy over the effect this could have on their own heavily depleted fishing industries. There has been talk of an effective ban on Spanish fishing in the EEC zone for several years after entry.

Hopes for agreement on a deal to offer Spain, still less one that Madrid would not scotch, are not great this week. The impression is that the matter could have to go to the EEC Summit in Dublin in a week's time.

PAY-OFF ATTACKED

Research cash plea

The Government was asked yesterday to take a stand against huge redundancy payments to Common Market scientific researchers and to demand that the fund is switched to improve conditions for research-starved Britain.

Mr Glen Ford, Labour Euro MP for Greater Manchester East and himself a research scientist, termed "scandalous" the handout in EEC scientists have received from a Community nuclear programme at Italy which could amount to £24 million.

EEC employees who are being persuaded to retire at 50 to make way for younger scientists are being offered 70 per cent of salaries for each year until normal retirement age — which could mean payments of more than £400,000 for senior workers.

دكتور من الراحل



The Duchess of Franco, only child of the late Spanish dictator, and her husband, the Marquess of Villaverde, standing in front of Spain's only monument in memory of Franco during a rally in Madrid yesterday on the ninth anniversary of his death. Thousands of marchers, many wearing paramilitary uniforms and giving fascist salutes, took to the streets calling for unity among Right-wing parties.

Fresh peace talks in El Salvador

By MARK FAZLOLLAH in Mexico City

NEW peace talks are to be held on Friday between the Government of El Salvador and Leftist guerrillas, the Archbishop of San Salvador, Monsignor Arturo Rivera y Damas announced yesterday.

He added that for security reasons the site would not yet be disclosed.

The Archbishop is to mediate between the two sides, each of which is to send four representatives.

The first peace talks of the five-year-old civil war were held on Oct. 15 in the guerrilla-controlled town of La Palma, and the only agreement made public afterwards was that the two sides would meet again in November.

One source close to the negotiations said the November meeting was postponed until the last day of the month because Right-wing military commanders opposed any dialogue with the rebels.

The two sides appear distrustful of each other, and the clandestine guerrilla "Radio Venceremos" said that President Duarte was trying to use the negotiations to improve his political standing. It also said that Roman Catholics "could commit the error of taking sides."

The United States meanwhile has rejected a Nicaraguan proposal for a non-aggression pact between the two countries. This was during negotiations in Manzanillo, Mexico, last week, the Nicaraguan Ambassador, Señor Edmundo Jarama, said in Mexico City yesterday.

He said Nicaragua also offered to include a clause promising not to allow foreign military bases on its territory. No agreement was reached, however, and no date had been set for a resumption of talks.

In Manzanillo a senior Western diplomat has scoffed at repeated American charges that Soviet war jets are headed for Nicaragua.

SUMMIT CALL

Message for Reagan

President-elect Daniel Ortega of Nicaragua said yesterday that the ruling sandinistas had underestimated the seriousness of United States intentions against them and he called for an urgent meeting with President Reagan to ease tensions.

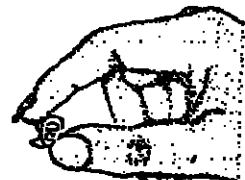
"If the President of the United States is truly sincere in his desire to solve the problems with Nicaragua through specific dialogue, this kind of communication is essential," Señor Ortega said in an interview.—Reuter.

4 DIE IN FLAT BLAST

An explosion and fire killed four people yesterday and injured at least eight, all of them in one flat at the time on the ninth floor of a 16-storey building in central Montreal. Experts were said to believe they had detected traces of dynamite.—U.P.I.

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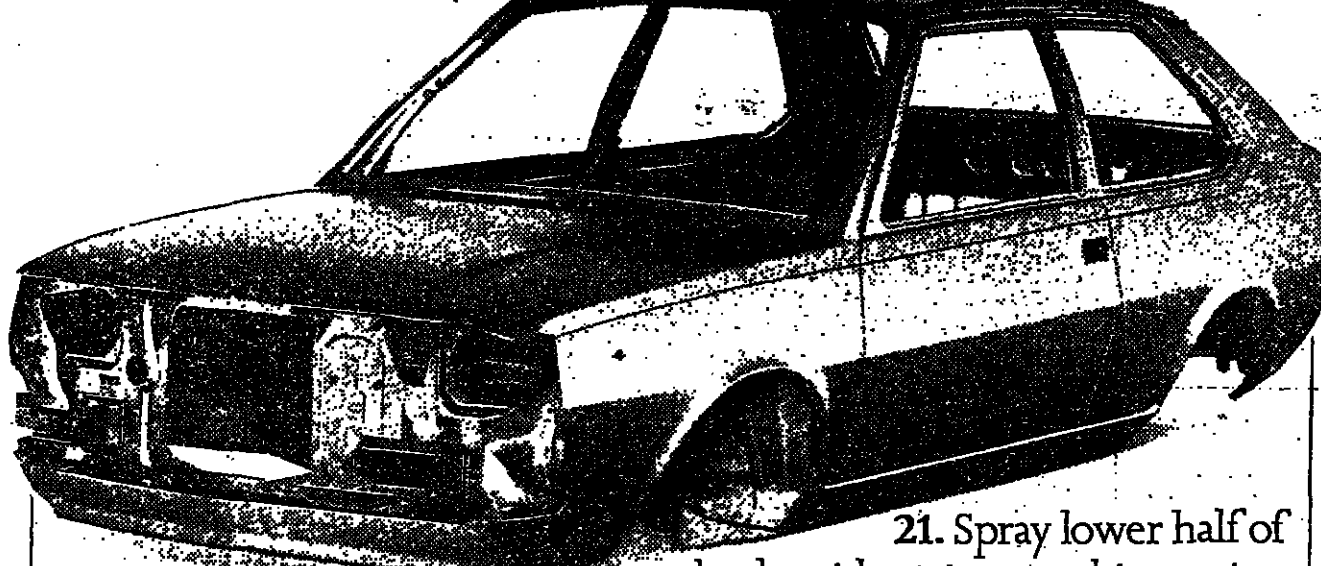
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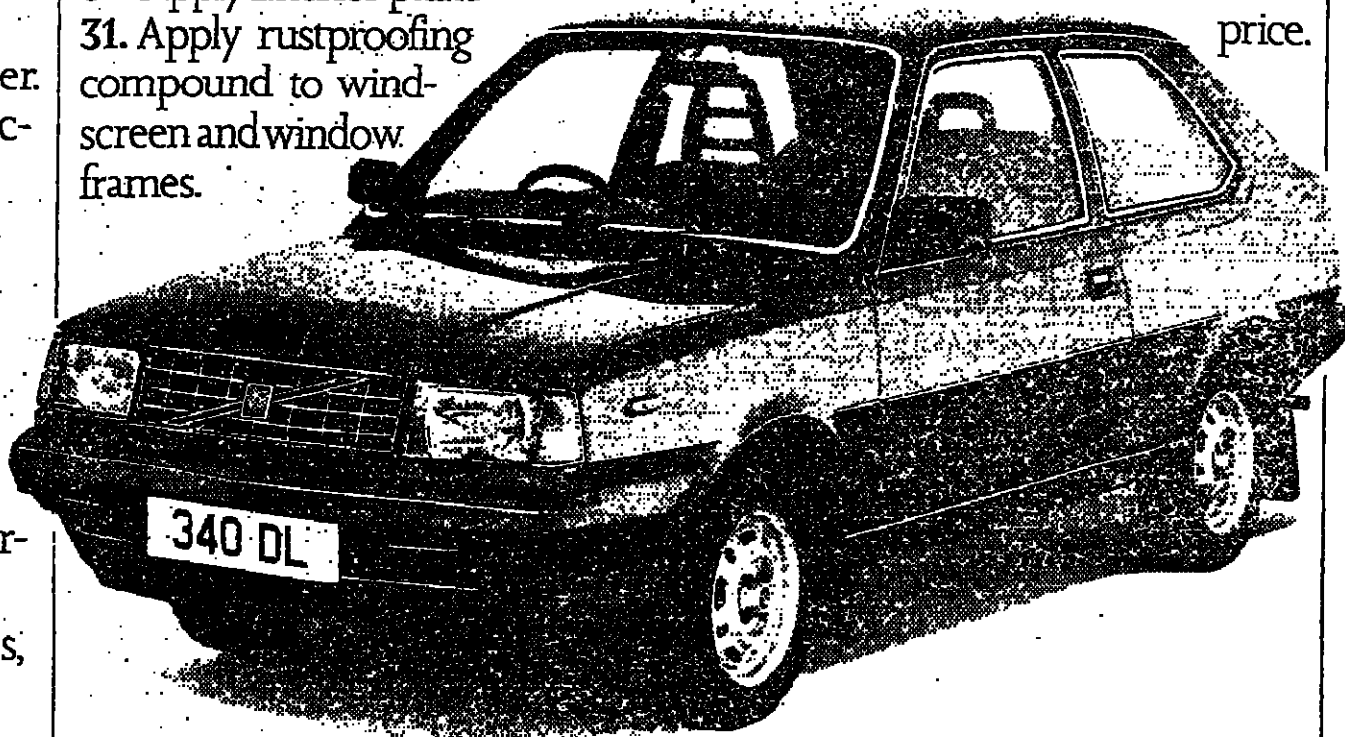


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10. Rinse.
11. Clean.
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13. Clean.
14. Rinse.
15. Clean.
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19. Seal all interior and exterior joints.
20. Remove all dust particles with compressed air.

21. Spray lower half of body with anti-stone-chip coating.
22. Spray entire body with filler compound.
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24. Rinse exterior surface.
25. Clean exterior surface.
26. Remove all dust particles with compressed air.
27. Wipe down with impregnated cloth.
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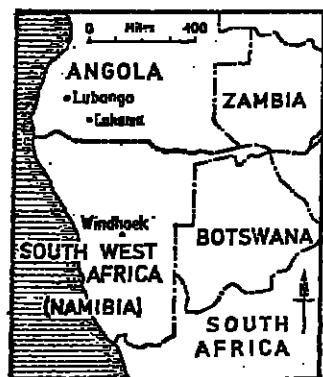
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Angolan 2-year plan for Cuban pull-back

By CHRISTOPHER MUNNION in Johannesburg

LONG-RANGE negotiations to secure the withdrawal of Cuban troops from Angola and open the way for an independence settlement for South West Africa (Namibia) are still "on track" despite sharp differences in proposals put forward by the South African and Angolan governments.



NKOMO TOLD TO CHANGE HIS WAYS

By IAN MILLS in Harare

ZIMBABWE'S General Election is several months away but already Opposition parties are the target of tough Government efforts to discredit them.

The Zimbabwe African People's Union party (ZAPU) of Mr Joshua Nkomo, the Opposition leader, is bearing the brunt of attacks from Mr Mugabe, Prime Minister, and his ruling Zimbabwe African National Union-Patriotic Front (ZANUFP).

Mr Mugabe has repeatedly accused ZAPU of masterminding the operations of armed dissidents and the murder of nearly a dozen ZANUFP officials.

The tone and content of Mr Mugabe's recent statements indicate the possibility of ZAPU being banned before the election in March.

Sparked anger

Mr Mugabe has so far resisted mounting calls from supporters to arrest Mr Nkomo and his ZAPU. But he warns that the Government's patience is running out.

Mr Nkomo, who continues to deny any control over the dissidents, last month called for a united front among Opposition parties, which also sparked Government anger and attacks. It is clear that if dissident attacks continue they will, it will take more than Mr Nkomo's denials to save his party.

Diplomats monitoring the complex manoeuvres said they did not think leaks of the details of the proposals and counter-proposals would seriously impair the negotiations.

President Eduardo dos Santos of Angola angered South Africa by disclosing details of his government's precautions for ordering the phased repatriation of the 30,000-strong Cuban expeditionary force from his country.

The Angolans are demanding the withdrawal of South African forces from southern Angola, a move that is expected to be completed within the next few weeks.

Elections pledge

Tuanda also wants a formal declaration by Pretoria that it will implement United Nations Resolution 435, the plan to hold supervised elections in South West Africa and translate the disputed territory into a fully independent Namibia.

In return, the Angolans proposed that Cuban forces would be pulled back to the north of Parallel 16 at the start of the implementation of Resolution 435, and there after be repatriated in units of 5,000 troops at four-monthly intervals over two years.

At the end of the two-year period, the remaining Cuban forces would be north of Parallel 16. After 36 months, 5,000 Cubans would remain around Luanda and would be linked with another Cuban force protecting the oil-producing enclave of Cabinda.

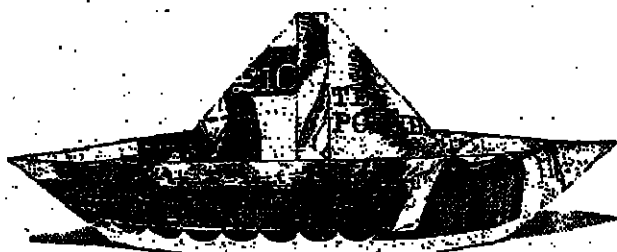
12-week pull out

Dr Crocker, the American Under-Secretary of State for Africa, put forward South Africa's counter-offer which suggests that the Cuban force in Angola should be reduced to 8,000 within nine weeks, and be withdrawn from the country entirely within 12 weeks.

Pretoria also wants the Cuban withdrawal to be monitored by a joint verification commission with the facilities to move freely throughout Angola.

South Africa also wants guarantees that the Cuban forces will not be replaced by other foreign forces, and insists that the numbers of East German and Russian "advisers" in Angola should not be increased above the 1978 figures.

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U.S. STICKING TO STORY IN MARCOS HEALTH HOAX

By IAN WARD in Manila

ALL indicators point to Washington knowingly co-operating in the Philippine Government's massive international hoax which is portraying the gravely-ill President Marcos as merely the victim of influenza.

Knowledgeable political sources in Manila are convinced that the United States, with huge military and political interests at stake, has reluctantly opted to play along with the Marcos family clique.

This faction believes national stability at this time of crisis can only be retained by fostering the deception that the ailing leader is well and fully in command.

Despite overwhelming evidence that President Marcos, 67, underwent major kidney surgery 11 days ago, Mr Gregorio Cendana, Information Minister, insists there is "no mystery" about the President's physical condition.

The President's physician says he is suffering from flu and has been placed in isolation in a specially sanitized guest house at his palace.

Eleven days after President Marcos abruptly dropped from his normally high-profile public view, the American Embassy in Manila still insists it has no accurate assessment of his condition and is down to monitoring the rumours.

Sustained ignorance to this degree is regarded as simply

inconceivable by seasoned observers who appreciate the extent to which American interests have for so long been entrenched in the Philippines.

America's two largest foreign military bases, Subic Bay, forward headquarters of the Seventh Fleet, and Clark Air Base, home of the 13th Air Force, are located in the Philippines and constitute the Western world's counter-balance to Russia's armed presence in both the Western Pacific and Indian Oceans.

Buying time

What makes the Americans sudden lack of knowledge hardest to accept is the fact that all evidence points to a team of doctors being flown in from a specialist medical centre in the United States to participate in surgery on President Marcos.

It is being suggested in well-informed circles that America has gone along with the international hoax as the Reagan Administration desperately needs to buy time.

Anti-nuclear upset seen in Australia

By DENIS WARNER in Melbourne

PRESIDENTS of both the young Liberal and the young Labour movement in New South Wales have congratulated Peter Garrett, a rock singer and leader of the Nuclear Disarmament party, for making the nuclear debate a big issue in the election next Saturday.

During a widely viewed Sunday television programme they said that Mr Garrett had done a tremendous job in bringing to the fore an issue that was of major importance to young voters.

About 500,000 will be voting for the first time on Saturday, and in all 2,000,000 voters are under the age of 25.

There is little appreciation in Australia that the preservation of the nuclear balance has helped keep the peace in Europe since 1945. New Zealand's current stance in banning visits by nuclear armed or powered ships has had considerable impact in Australia.

Senate in doubt

While both the Labour and the anti-nuclear coalition parties continue to support the alliance with America, they seem set for some shocks next Saturday when the votes of the anti-nuclear parties are counted.

Tens of thousands of young electors voted for the preservation of the Wilderness in South Western Tasmania in the 1983 election, causing the loss of several marginal Liberal seats. The protest vote this time seems likely to cost Labour any chance it may have had of winning control of the Senate.

Hongkong plagued by doubts and fears for future

By HUGH DAVIES in Canton

A DISTURBING picture emerged yesterday of the people of Hongkong being plagued by doubts and fears about their future under Chinese Communist rule.

It emerged less than a month before Mrs Thatcher is due to visit Peking to sign the declaration handing Hongkong back to China in July, 1997.

The first major opinion poll since the draft document was initiated in September showed that nine out of 10 people favoured an agreement rather than no pact at all.

And most of the 6,140 Hongkongers interviewed emphasised that they did not view the declaration as a "sell-out" by the British Government.

But many voiced grave misgivings about the continued stability of China, doubting that the successors to Teng Hsiao-ping, 80, the mainland leader, would continue his pro-Western policies.

More than half those interviewed felt that the document failed to provide adequate and workable assurances that the terms would be honoured.

Individual replies varied enormously. One person was very satisfied "at hearing of the Chinese plan to maintain the colony's life style for 50 years. Another commented: "Negotiation is better than confrontation."

A third rejected the pact outright. He said: "The withdrawal of Britain indicates that they retreat when they have amassed great wealth. That amounts to betraying the people of Hongkong."

Seventy-seven per cent thought the pact was not very good but the best that could be expected in the circumstances.

Key areas of fear included worries about possible military conscription, supposed corruption in China, the exact legal process to be followed if the pact's guarantees were breached, the numbers of troops to be stationed by Peking in the territory, and the practicability of capitalism working in the Marxist system.

Summing up the survey, the Morning Post said that people were torn between a feeling of national loyalty to China and a sense of distrust of the Chinese Communist Government.

Yet to be decided

As one person pointed out, much depended on the law to be implemented by the new Communist rulers.

This has yet to be decided. The draft pact says that the law currently based on British precedent is to be enacted and promulgated by the National People's Congress in Peking.

Ke Zhaishuo, one of the Chinese negotiators of the pact, has said that Hongkong people will take part in the drafting. But observers note that China, the scene of a multitude of summary executions of late, is to have the final say.

The survey, carried out by an independent research firm, was commissioned by the English language South China Morning Post, three other news organisations, and members of the Legislature.

Grudging acceptance

There was a grudging acceptance of the pact and at the very least "a feeling of resignation."

Results of another analysis, that of 2,400 submissions to the British Government's Assessment Office in Hongkong, are to be released on Friday, six days before Mrs Thatcher debates the issue in Westminster.

The Lords then confer on Dec. 10.

Both Houses of Parliament are considered certain to support the agreement, leaving the way clear for Mrs Thatcher's trip to China, planned for Dec. 18 and 19.

She is then expected to give a Press conference in Hongkong before a flying visit to Washington for talks with President Reagan.

Volunteers sought to fight Tamil terror

By VILMA WIMALADASA in Colombo

SRI LANKA'S Air Force called for volunteers yesterday to combat further Tamil separatist attacks. State radio broadcasts called on men aged 18-26 to report to Air Force headquarters on Wednesday and Thursday.

A recruitment drive is also planned by the army, navy, and police to boost numbers in the fight against Tamil guerrillas and their demand for a separate state in northern and eastern parts of the island.

The Defence authorities will decide this week on whether to continue sending personnel for training at the National Defence College in India in view of the large number of Tamil terrorists who are also receiving training on the mainland.

Defence sources are looking for training facilities elsewhere.

Curfew reimposed

The Government reimposed a curfew in northern districts last night following a nationwide 30-hour curfew imposed last Wednesday after guerrillas blew up a police station in the Jaffna district, killing 26 policemen and three civilians.

Fourteen people were injured in Tuesday's attack on the Chavakachcheri police station, while there has been speculation about the presence of the 17-year-old daughter of an assistant government agent at the police station during the attack.

She and another girl were two of the three civilians killed.

On Saturday afternoon, 10 terrorists were killed and seven caught when security forces ambushed a terrorist flotilla of four fishing boats carrying about 60 terrorists, heading off a terrorist attack on Batticaloa police station in the Eastern Province.

The terrorists abandoned the boats, jumped overboard, and swam ashore to disappear into the jungle.

The security forces said yesterday that an air force helicopter, which spotted the men heading towards the police station in boats, had fired and killed four rebels. The bodies of four more guerrillas were later washed ashore.

On Friday night, 123 suspected terrorists were rounded up and taken for questioning about a suspected attack on the Kalawandikudy police station in the Eastern Province.

Colombo has expressed serious concern to India's External Affairs Ministry about strident claims from various Madras-based terrorist organisations that have taken responsibility for the Chavakachcheri police station killings.

Charges denied

Mr Ranasinghe Premadasa, Sri Lanka's Prime Minister, appealed in Parliament to Mr Rajiv Gandhi, his Indian counterpart, to dismantle camps in Tamil Nadu where he said the guerrillas were being trained.

Mr A. Nedudcheian, Tamil Nadu's acting premier, denied the Sri Lankan charges, "There

GRASS-ROOTS SHAKE-UP FOR CHINESE

The Chinese Communist party has announced the second phase of a campaign to weed out corrupt members and ultra-Left sympathisers. It says that all its 40 million members will face re-selection during the next two years.

The object is to ensure that the party is fully behind the pragmatic policies of Ten Hsiao-ping, China's ageing strong man, who has abandoned some of the gallatious dogmas of Maoism that caused such chaos in the so-called Cultural Revolution.

The first phase of the shake-up covered central and local party organisations and the Armed Forces. The second phase is to cover grass-roots members.

The shake-up is said to differ from a Soviet-style purge and to put the emphasis on repentance and self-criticism. The party's secretary-general, Hu Yaobang, said in the summer that only 1,000 people had actually been expelled from the party.

CAPTURED CAMP ENCIRCLED

By Our Bangkok Correspondent

Son Sam, the Cambodian guerrilla leader, said at the weekend that the Vietnamese, who recently overran the Khmer Rouge rebel stronghold of Nong Chan, would not be able to hold the fallen base for long.

Speaking at Ban Angsa, a refugee camp 10 miles east of the Thai border town of Aranyaprathet, Son Sam said the Vietnamese would have difficulty in receiving food and equipment supplies as the number of guerrilla groups had increased and had the base surrounded. Nong Chan is situated just one mile inside Cambodia.

BEEES KILL TWO

A Kenyan peasant woman, drawing water from a spring, and her baby girl died after being attacked by a swarm of bees near the western town of Kisumu. —A.P.

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IT SEEMED AS GOOD A PLACE AS ANY TO START LOOKING FOR NORTH SEA OIL.

1 9 6 5

A routine press conference in London, and an off-the-cuff remark by Shell UK's top geologist. Within minutes his comments are on every Editor's desk in Fleet Street, and by morning, being repeated the length and breadth of the country. While the sceptics scoff, the politicians pray. If what has been hinted at is indeed true, it will alter the economic and political fortunes of Britain for decades to come. Out in the North Sea, it is reported, Shell expects to strike oil.

1 9 6 6

The financial markets of London buzz with anticipation following Shell's discreet announcement of 'a significant gas discovery' 32 miles off the coast of East Anglia. Within two years Shell and other companies are bringing North Sea gas ashore, and with it a dramatic revival for the British gas industry. Plans are made for completely converting the National Grid to natural gas.

1 9 6 7

Armed with the latest seismic data, two geologists from Shell set up a small office in a tiny flat, over a bookshop, in the centre of Aberdeen. It seems as good a place as any from which to tackle their awesome task. They have been instructed to begin exploration of the vast and hostile waters of the northern parts of the North Sea.

1 9 7 1

At the northernmost offshore well yet drilled in the world, a veil of secrecy descends over Shell's activities. Communications with the mainland are suddenly coded through 'scrambler' phones. Information is rushed to Shell's scientists for prompt analysis. Until, as abruptly as they began, the exploration team cease all activity, seal the well, and are clearly seen making off for entirely new locations. A simple manoeuvre to ensure that nobody will guess what they have found.

1 9 7 2

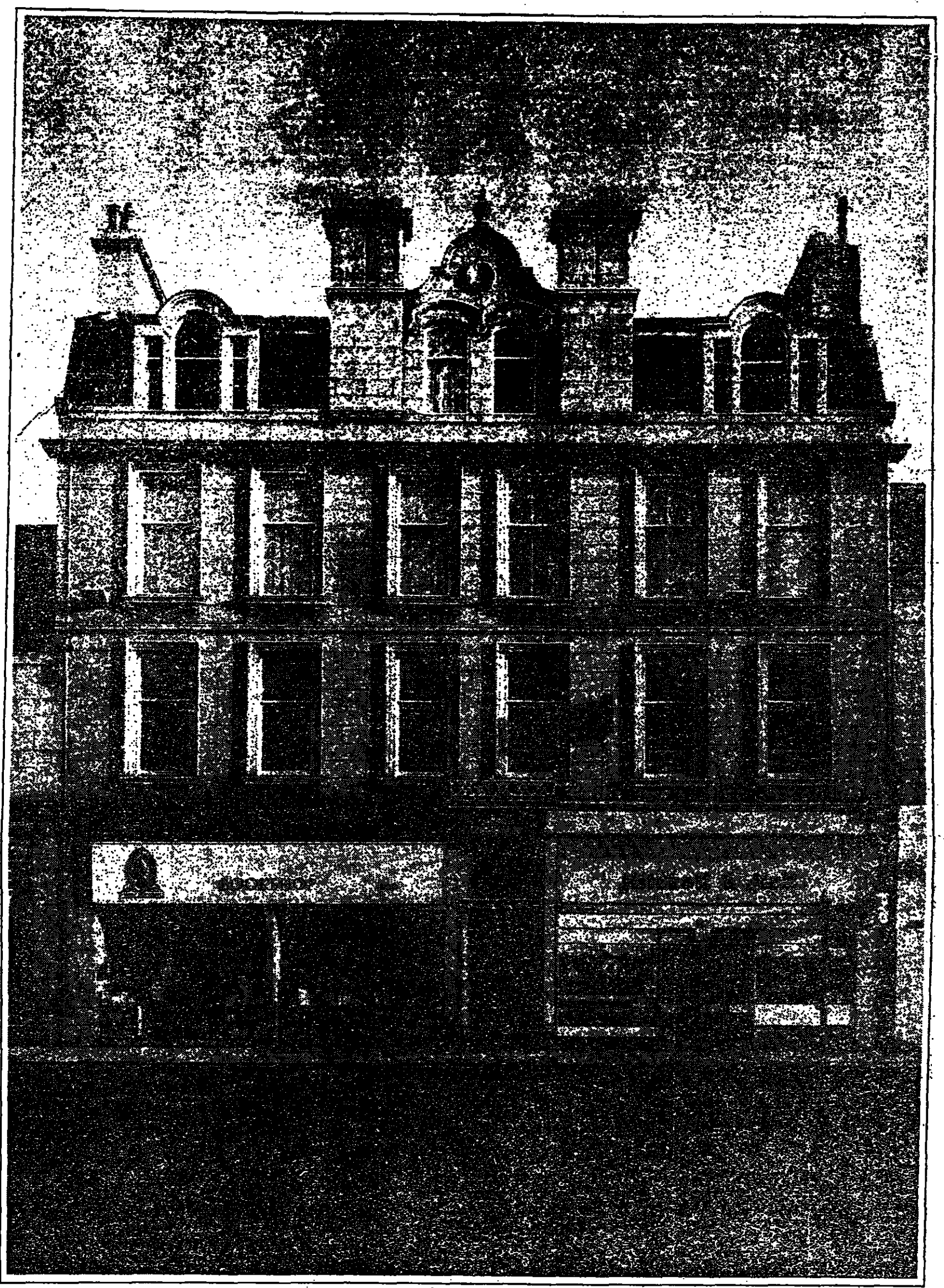
Shell proudly announces the discovery of what will prove to be a giant oil and gas find for Britain, the Brent Field.

1 9 7 4

The latest analysis of the Brent Field shows that the possible reserves of oil and natural gas liquids are double the original estimate. With Britain's oil deficit still around £3.8 billion, the news is welcome indeed.

1 9 7 6

The very high ratio of gas and gas liquids to oil being produced at Brent leads to a daring new scheme. A pipeline 278 miles long is to be laid on the seabed, to bring ashore the gas and gas liquids for separation. It will be the longest, and deepest, offshore pipeline ever built and is yet another challenge for British industry. Much of the technology required for North Sea development must be capable of operating in waves of up to 100 feet high, and in gusts of wind up to 100 miles per hour. In this instance, underwater cameras, side-scan sonars and computer systems are needed that will operate 600 feet beneath the sea.



1 9 7 8

The scheme is a success. Now it will be possible to bring the gas and gas liquids ashore for further use. The gas will be extracted and fed into the National Grid.

It would be possible to split the remainder into ethane, butane, propane and natural gasoline — important resources for industry. To do so, a highly advanced plant, costing many millions of pounds, will have to be specially built.

1 9 8 0

Work begins on the £400 million Gas Liquids Plant being built by Shell at Mossmorran, and on the 138 mile pipeline that will feed it. Soon Mossmorran will be the largest construction site in Europe.

1 9 8 2

Oil production from Brent approaches 310,000 barrels per day. This vast quantity helps transform Britain's oil deficit of yesteryear into a surplus of around £4.4 billion.

1 9 8 4

A VIP gathering to witness the opening of the new Mossmorran plant. Distinguished speakers touch on one or two environmental aspects of the plant, such as how it has been built tucked into the contours of the land so as to be as unobtrusive as possible. Also mentioned are the industrial aspects, such as how the hydrocarbons being produced will ultimately be used in the manufacturing of a thousand and one household items, from lipsticks to records.

But above all, it is noted that the opening of Mossmorran marks the culmination of the twenty years in which Shell, and the countless number of smaller British companies that have worked for her, have invested thousands of millions of pounds and great skill and ingenuity in the North Sea.

With excitement, we all look forward to the next twenty years.

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ASBESTOS CHECK IN TUNNELS AFTER TUBE FIRE

By GUY RAIS

TEAMS of specialists working under controlled conditions will take "several days" to remove damaged white asbestos panels from Oxford Street Underground station which was hit by fire on Friday night.

Until the panels are removed, the station's north-bound platform on the Victoria Line will be sealed off to the public.

A London Region Transport spokesman said: "We do not believe there is any danger, but it is right to be as meticulous as possible in dealing with the situation."

Tunnel linings on either side of the northbound platforms are expected to be examined for possible traces of asbestos.

An enquiry into all aspects of fire safety has been ordered, after several hundred passengers, many of them homebound, were trapped in smoke-filled tunnels for nearly two hours.

Five trains were halted by thick smoke billowing down the tunnels. And power for the trains throughout central London was switched off to allow passengers to walk along the tracks to safety.

15 in hospital
The fire was started in a contractor's hut in a tunnel used to store building materials. Thick smoke choked the network and the heat brought down material lining the tunnel.

Nostalgia on the Roast Beef Special

By JOHN PETTY
Transport Correspondent

BRITISH Rail put a touch of class and nostalgia into its operations yesterday when the first "Roast Beef Sunday Lunch Pullman Special" took to the rails.

For £19.50 return, passengers in the 12-coach train from King's Cross to Norwich travelled in elegant splendour, with museum-piece coaches hired from private owners for the occasion.

The idea has aroused such delight among railway buffs that the next trip, from London to York on Dec. 16, is fully booked with a waiting list of 200.

So more "Roast Beef Specials" will be organised after Christmas.

Slow journey

Yesterday brought coffee and biscuits at New Barnet, gin and tonic at Cambridge, asparagus soup at Ely, roast beef in the Forest of Norfolk, apple pie at Appleborough, coffee at Wyntonham, and brandy near Norwich, with the wine flowing throughout foggy fenland.

Nobody minded that Sunday track work made the journey exceedingly slow, so that people arrived at Kings Cross for 10 a.m. and got to Norwich just before 2 p.m. leaving three hours to see the city in sunshine before the return trip.

The coaches are owned by a new private company, Pullman Rail, which owns 24 vehicles that are maintained by British Rail under contract at Bond's Green, the depot for Kings Cross.



Pc Allen Bratchell with his police dog Khan—winner of this year's Pro Dogs Gold Medal award in London yesterday. The three-year-old Alsatian was seriously injured in a car accident in Croydon, while chasing two suspects. He cornered them later, despite fractured ribs, a punctured lung and a ruptured diaphragm, after Pc Bratchell had managed to lift the car enough for Khan to drag himself clear.

Bypass route protesters 'blocked'

By JOHN GRIGSBY
Local Government Correspondent

PROTESTERS against a planned by-pass in the Dartmoor National Park claimed yesterday that Mr Ridley, Transport Secretary, is denying them a last chance to oppose the chosen route.

The Open Spaces Society, one of the groups of local people and conservation bodies which have raised £20,000 to fight the Okehampton by-pass route, accused the Government of a "gross abuse of executive authority."

If the Department has its way, Parliament will not have the chance to consider the position to a route which passes through two public open spaces, Bluebell Wood and East Hill, and involves the felling of more than 1,000 mature oaks, beeches and hollies.

The proposed route was adopted just over a year ago after a public enquiry which ended in 1980.

Last chance

But because it would pass through public open space, petitioners are generally allowed to object to a compulsory purchase order. In effect, this gives them a last chance to persuade M.P.s that the route should not go ahead.

The Department of Transport challenged the validity of the order. But Lord Aberdare, Chairman of Committees, and Mr Harold Walker, Chairman of Ways and Means, ruled against the Government and said the petition should be heard by a Parliamentary Joint Committee in the normal way.

The petitioners have now accused the Department of seeking to undermine the chairman's decision. Tomorrow night the Government will ask the Commons to adopt an early day motion tabled by Sir Peter Mills, M.P. for West Devon, that the petition should not be referred to the joint committee.

Divide Lords

This procedure has been invoked only twice by a Government since it was introduced in 1905. The conservation bodies hope that enough Conservative M.P.s will be outraged to force the Government to allow the petition to go ahead.

However, Lord Foot has said he will divide the Lords on a prayer, which will be debated on Dec. 15, that the orders should be annulled.

The Ramblers' Association, one of the groups objecting, said: "If constructed, the road would not only cause irreparable damage to the national park, it would also be in clear breach of the Government's own policy."

"This states that no new route for long distance traffic should be constructed through a national park unless it has been demonstrated that there is a compelling need which would not be met by any reasonable alternative means."

MORE OF THE M1 WILL SOON BE LIT UP

By JOHN PETTY
Transport Correspondent

ANOTHER stretch of the M1 is to have lighting fitted, covering the length between the Newport Pagnell service centre and junction 16, near Northampton.

But that still leaves long sections of both the M1 and the M6 unlit. The Transport Department estimates it would cost £10 million to light the rest of the M1 and £14 million to instal lights on the rest of the M6.

Current roadworks notified by the Department include:

M1: Moderate delays likely to evening peak hours at three spots due to work on north-bound carriageway, two in Bedfordshire between junctions 10 and 12 and the other in Buckinghamshire between junctions 13 and 14.

M2: Two contraflows causing delays south of Medway towns.

Lane closures

M3: Delays due to contraflow lasting until Dec. 24 at junction 1, Sunbury Cross, Surrey.

M4: Work near London Airport. Lane closures in Berkshire on both carriageways between junctions 10 and 11 at varying times until Dec. 2. Repairs to Severn Bridge.

M5: Lane closures affecting both carriageways between junctions 4 and 5, near Bromsgrove, until late December. Southbound carriageway closed nightly, 9.30 p.m.-6 a.m., with diversions via A58.

M6: Moderate to severe delays until Wednesday because of work between junctions 3 and 4, Warwickshire. Contraflow in Staffordshire between junctions 11 and 10.

December 21 with Hilston Park service centre closed to north-bound traffic. Northbound exit closed at junction 11 and southbound entry slip road closed.

Cheshire: Lane closures in junctions 17 and 18, also between junctions 21 and 21a.

M25: Only hard-shoulder in use on westbound carriageway between junctions 10 and 11 on the Wisley-Chertsey section, Surrey.

M40: Various closures west-bound between junctions 5 and 6, Oxfordshire, with some diversions via M40.

M50: Contraflow between junctions 2 and 3, south of Leebury. Entry and exit slip-roads closed at junction 2.

Tobacco awards 'cynical'

By COLIN GIBSON
Sports Correspondent

A TOBACCO company's sponsorship of bravery awards has been criticised by an anti-smoking group as "a cynical attempt to give cigarettes a misleading image."

Silk Cuts' Nautical Awards presented for the first time in London last week, included two categories won by a lifeboat crew and an RAF squadron for rescues at sea.

Action on Smoking and Health (ASH) claimed the move to extend cigarette sponsorship from the traditional sporting context followed the lead from Australia and New Zealand where life-saving services have cigarette company backing.

But the Tobacco Advisory Council defended the sponsorship of the awards as being a "worthwhile recognition of acts of bravery."

Linked to sponsorship

Children's recognition of cigarette brands is directly linked to the sponsorship of televised sports by the tobacco industry, a report to be published next month will claim.

After a survey of 880 children aged between 11 and 15 at a senior school Greater Manchester, Dr Frank Ledwith, a fellow at Manchester University, found that more than half associated cigarettes with sport.

But the Tobacco Advisory Council said the report fails to show that the televised sport's sponsorship actually encourages children to begin smoking.

Although not encouraged by the Sports Council, many governing sports bodies have aligned with cigarettes or alcohol manufacturers for much needed revenue.

Since 1984 when cigarette advertising was banned from television, the major cigarette companies have backed sports for their public exposure, claims ASH.

Named by children

Dr Ledwith said: "My conclusions to my report was that now television sponsorship acts as advertising for the cigarette industry."

After major sporting events like snooker, cricket, darts and motor racing, the children's knowledge of brand names rises. The three major sponsors of television sport were named by all but 15 of the 880 children.

"A total of 181 of the children also smoked and most smoked the brands which sponsor sport. It is difficult though to get clear evidence that children are influenced by the advertising, but what is clear is that the law banning cigarette promotion on television is being circumvented."

BRITISH BOY IN CRASH WINS BRAVERY AWARD

Bradley Rudgley, 11, of Sheering, Essex, has been named in Rome as the winner of the Samaritan '84 Award, which is given each year to a European who saves lives endangered by a car accident.

Bradley pulled his mother, grandmother, younger sister and a friend from their burning car when it was involved in an accident on Sept. 9 this year.

The boy was injured in the crash, but he managed to extricate himself and then pulled the others one by one from the blazing wreck. His mother was unconscious at the steering wheel.—U.P.I.



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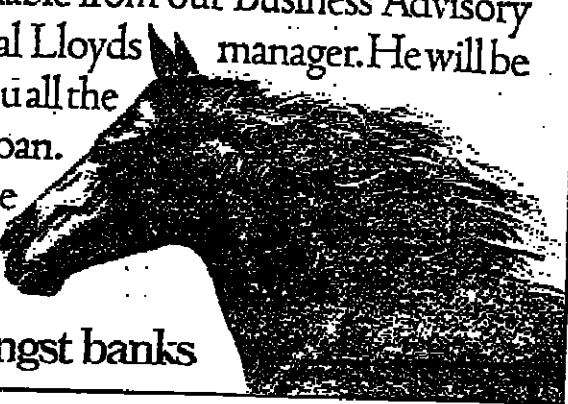
You've then got the option—and this is unique—of changing this arrangement every five years, throughout the term of the loan. Which for the right project could be up to 20 years.

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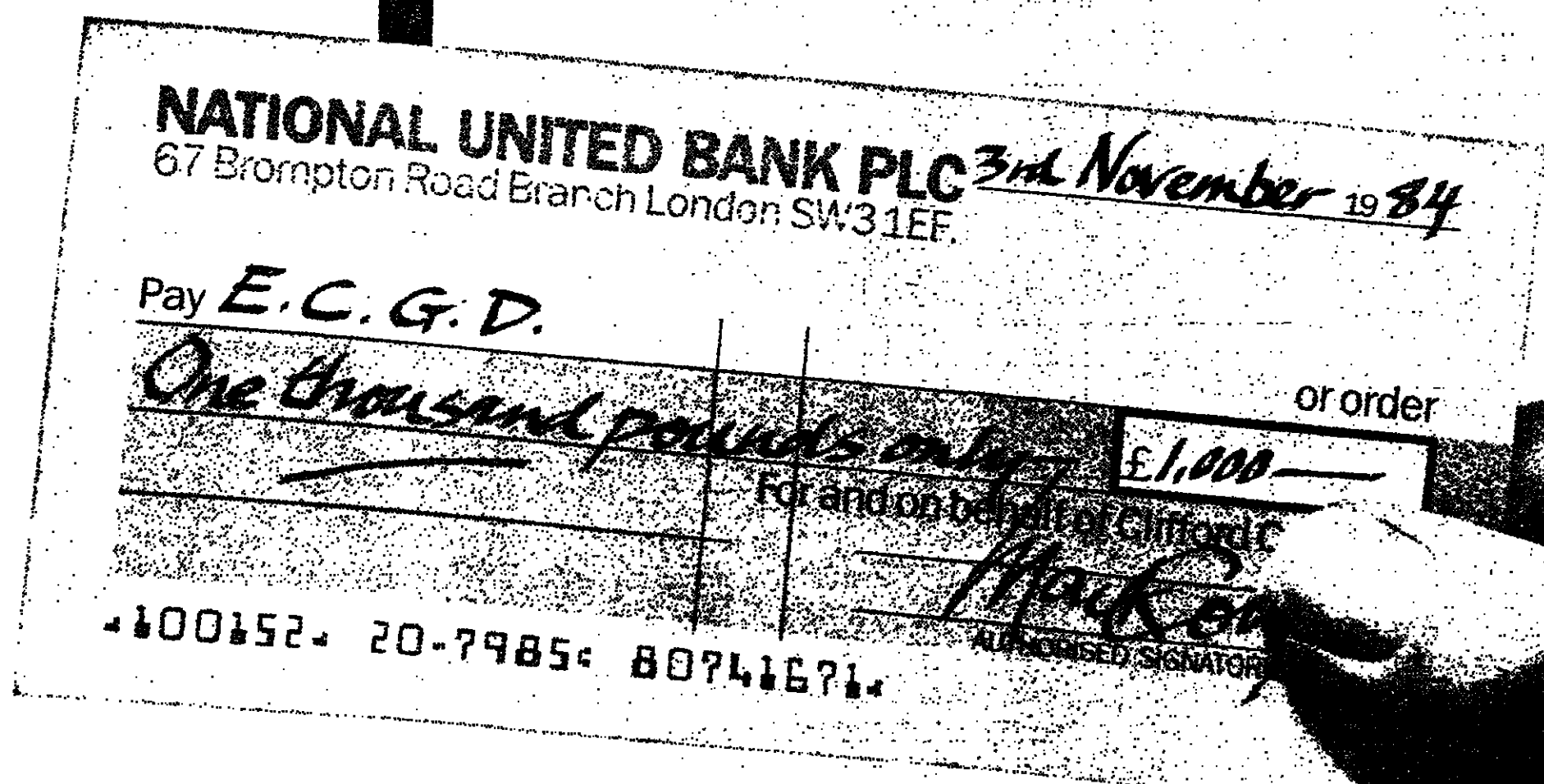
It's the most flexible business loan—bar none.

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A cure for stress, ulcers, insomnia, anxiety and panic.



There are some exporters today that operate a business without any real guarantee of payment. Sending consignment after consignment overseas with little more than hope as their only reassurance.

The thought of non-payment can lead to stress, anxiety or even ulcers, but not being paid can be commercially crippling.

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EVERYONE OUT TO FIGHT POLL NO-ONE WANTED

By JAMES ALLAN

IT is the by-election nobody in British politics wanted but it looks like being the poll everyone wants to contest.

Some 11 candidates have indicated their intention to fight the Enfield Southgate seat which was held for the Conservatives by Sir Anthony Berry, one of the victims of the Brighton bombing last month.

He retained the seat in the 1983 General Election with a majority of 15,819, partly a reflection of the concern Sir Anthony had shown for all his constituents, of whatever political persuasion, for 20 years.

Constituency officials are still receiving letters from people expressing gratitude for kindness shown and efforts made by Sir Anthony on their behalf which had remained unknown until his tragic death.

Sir Anthony, 59, preferred to go to the homes of constituents with a problem and discuss it in the more relaxed surroundings of the front room than in the clinical atmosphere the term "surgery" suggests.

Best riposte

Both Labour and Liberal parties debated whether abstaining from the by-election would be a rebuff to the Provisional IRA, but decided in the end that the best riposte to the terrorists who claimed Sir Anthony's life was for the democratic processes to continue unimpeded.

The mantle of heir-apparent to Sir Anthony has fallen on Mr Michael Portillo, a 31-year-old North Londoner who expects to maintain the Conservatives' grip on predominantly middle-class Southgate at the polls on Dec. 15.

Following his selection he resigned as special political adviser to Mr Lawson, and he is not afraid of being tainted by some of the less popular measures the Chancellor has taken.

As a former speechwriter and subsequently adviser to Mr Cechil Parkinson, special political adviser to Mr Howell as Energy Secretary 1979-81, a member of the Conservative research department, 1976-79, deputy chairman of the Battersea Conservative Association and a failed candidate in last year's General Election, he is no new boy to politics.

In fact, many of his party colleagues appear to be already tipping him for future Cabinet office.



Mr Peter Hamid, Labour's candidate.

Educated at Harrow County School for Boys and Cambridge, he is acutely sensitive to the fact that his chance has come about in the most tragic of circumstances which he feels call for a dignified and sober campaign that eschews "mud slinging".

The omens are in his favour, including the make-up of the constituency which has 75 per cent, owner-occupiers among the 66,644 electorate living mainly between the M25 to the north and the heavily trafficked North Circular Road to the south.

Even unemployment at 8.2 per cent is below the average in both London and nationally. When nominations close at 4 p.m. on Dec. 3 he could be facing 10 opponents, including the ubiquitous Screaming Lord Sutch and the "England for the English" party.

Deposit change

The attention of the "freak fringe" has been aroused by the fact that this may be the last election where a deposit of only £150 is required before Parliament votes to raise the sum to £1,000.

The only definitely named contestant to Mr Portillo is Labour's candidate, Mr W. F. Hamid, a Barbadian who is known as Peter.

He explained: "When I came to London from Barbados in 1955 I stayed with a very

ardent Labour family who were horrified to find my first name was Winston as Winston Churchill was then Prime Minister. "My second name is Farouk and King Farouk was then the epitome of capitalism so they decided to call me Peter."

He believes that the Government has acted with undue haste in calling the by-election so soon after Sir Anthony's death, especially as it intrudes into the pre-Christmas period when people are more concerned with preparations for the festive season than with politics.

"It looks as though they might have something nasty up their sleeve in the New Year," he suggested.

"I have already had my nasty. Thanks to Maggie's policies I was made redundant five weeks ago after 14 years' loyal service," said Mr Hamid, 52, who was a technical clerk in a drawing office.

Last December he led a group to Calais to protest against the way the French were discriminating against coloured British passport holders.

At the General Election Labour were beaten into third place by the Liberal Alliance candidate, Mr David Morgan, who is one of four short-listed nominations to be decided on by the Liberals tonight.

General Election: Sir Anthony Berry (Cons.) 15,819; Mr Morgan (Liberal Alliance) 10,632; Mrs M. Howell (Lab.) 1,145; Mr Portillo (Cons.) 510; Mr Hamid (Lab.) 120.

£202,708 LEFT BY SIR ANTHONY

Sir Anthony Berry, killed in the Brighton bombing left £202,708 net (£432,854 gross) in his will published at the weekend.

He was the first Viscount Kemsley. After minor bequests he left his property to his wife and children.

Latest Wills—P14

JAIL LEAVE FOR IRA WOMAN

A former "senior armourer" with the IRA was yesterday on weekend leave from Cookham Wood Prison, Kent, where she is serving a 14-year sentence for possession of explosives. Mrs Anne Maguire was convicted at the Old Bailey in 1976.

Mrs Maguire, who is understood to have spent the weekend with her family in North London, was forbidden to visit Ireland during her leave. She is due to be freed next year.

AIRLINER DUG OUT

Bristol Airport re-opened yesterday after tractors rescued an Iberian Airlines 300 jet which had skidded off the runway into mud as it landed from Tenerife in bad weather on Friday.



Mr Michael Portillo, the Conservative candidate in the Enfield Southgate by-election, canvassing in Winchmore Hill with his wife Carolyn.

CBI FEARS ON WATER CHARGES

By Our Business Correspondent

PIRATES are facing rises of up to 50 per cent. in water charges over the next three years as a result of tighter Government financial controls, according to estimates by the Confederation of British Industry.

Sir Terence Beckett, CBI director-general, has told Mr Jenkins, Environment Secretary, that the planned rises are a form of hidden taxation.

Water authorities have told customers that charges will have to rise above the rate of inflation over the next three years following Government orders to reduce borrowing at a time of rising spending to modernise water and sewage systems.

Tax-gathering

Charges next year are set to rise by an average of 12 per cent, but in some areas could go up by as much as 20 per cent., says the CBI.

The CBI says that at a time when county and town halls are being urged to cut rates, water authorities are being pressed to raise their charges in what is clearly a tax-gathering operation.

Water authorities have been told to reduce borrowing from £2,685 million last year to £203 million next year and be self-financing in three years.

'Time to end support' for new technology

By ROLAND GRIBBEN Business Correspondent

A HALT to Government aid for new technology and a switch to supporting the new industries of the 1990s is urged to day in a paper from the Bow Group.

The paper says Britain has golden opportunity to steal a march in industrial competitors.

The country should back industrial winners of the future such as ceramics, carbons, engineering plastics, nuclear fusion and the new generation of medical businesses.

New technology industries, logy, robotics and biotechnology are thriving and need no further government support, adds the paper, produced by Mr Michael Gardner, an economist, for the Group's industry standing committee.

Commercial successes

The paper argues that the Government's support programme have been based on the need to keep up with the "international Joneses" and adds: "There is no good reason why developed nations should all be supporting all of the same technologies given their different resources and needs."

Britain's future markets would be best served by marshalling efforts and resources into technologies where "we have the greatest advantage and can capitalise on it."

Britain has a history of generating new technological ideas but failing to develop them

into commercial successes. The Government could play a vital role in ensuring that Britain sets its "at the ground floor" in the new industries.

Defence and energy spending should be geared more to supporting new industries and a specialist group should be set up to provide advice to the Government.

Backbone Industrial Visions... Bow Publications... £1.50

Pe ACCUSED OF DRINKING ON DUTY

By Our Crime Staff

A constable who was alleged to have been served alcoholic drinks in a club while on duty has been accused of aiding and abetting the licensee in allowing it to happen. The rare case will be heard by Bromley magistrates on Dec. 14.

The officer who is based at Sydenham faces dismissal if found guilty. The alleged incident took place last month when the officer was seen in the club by a sergeant.

Later the landlord was served with summonses alleging that he served refreshment and "suffered" the constable to be on the premises. Both face fines of up to £50 on each summons.

HEATH TO CHALLENGE LAWSON

By NICHOLAS COMFORT Political Staff

MR HEATH is preparing to deliver a speech on Friday in which he will voice his strongest criticism to date of Government economic policy, accusing Ministers in particular of abandoning the traditional goal of full employment.

While the former Prime Minister's enmity toward the economic philosophy of Mrs Thatcher is long-standing and well known, he is expected to break new ground by attacking specifically the attitudes of Mr Lawson, Chancellor.

His address to the Peel Society at Tamworth will also take several stages further some of the arguments advanced by Mr Walker, Energy Secretary, in his Macmillan Lecture last week which incensed the Right of the Conservative party.

Yesterday one Conservative MP a little closer than Mr Heath to the mainstream of the party called publicly on Mr Lawson to forget his aim of cutting taxes in the next Budget and spend any available money on trimming unemployment instead.

Mr Robert McCrindle, MP for Brentwood and Ongar, said: "It would be quite wrong to reduce taxes for the better-off while more than 3 million people are on the dole, and I think many high tax payers take this view."

Lifting veil on Special Branch

By T. A. SANDROCK Crime Correspondent

SECRET and sensitive details of Special Branch operations could be made public when its role and activities are examined on Wednesday by the Commons Home Affairs Committee.

Evidence is to be given in public by the Association of Metropolitan Authorities represented by Mr Ronald Darrington, chairman of the West Yorkshire police authority and a member of the Association's working party on police accountability.

It is hoped that Mr Brittan, Home Secretary, will appear before the Committee. Others giving evidence include the National Council for Civil Liberties and representatives of the Association of Chief Police Officers.

Considerable secrecy has cloaked the activities of Special Branch officers because a major part of their role concerns security matters although they are police officers and not part of the country's security services whose activities are protected from public examination.

In recent years there has been severe criticism of abuse of powers. There was particular concern expressed by MPs last year when Branch detectives investigated a Midlands housewife solely because she objected to cruise missiles in a letter to a local newspaper.

1,200 officers

The Branch is not a national unit. There are more than 1,200 Branch officers in England and Wales with 373 of these in the Metropolitan Police. The remainder are local officers in their own forces Branch units.

They are mainly concerned with subversives and terrorist groups but are present at all port and airports where the officers are supplied by the local police force.

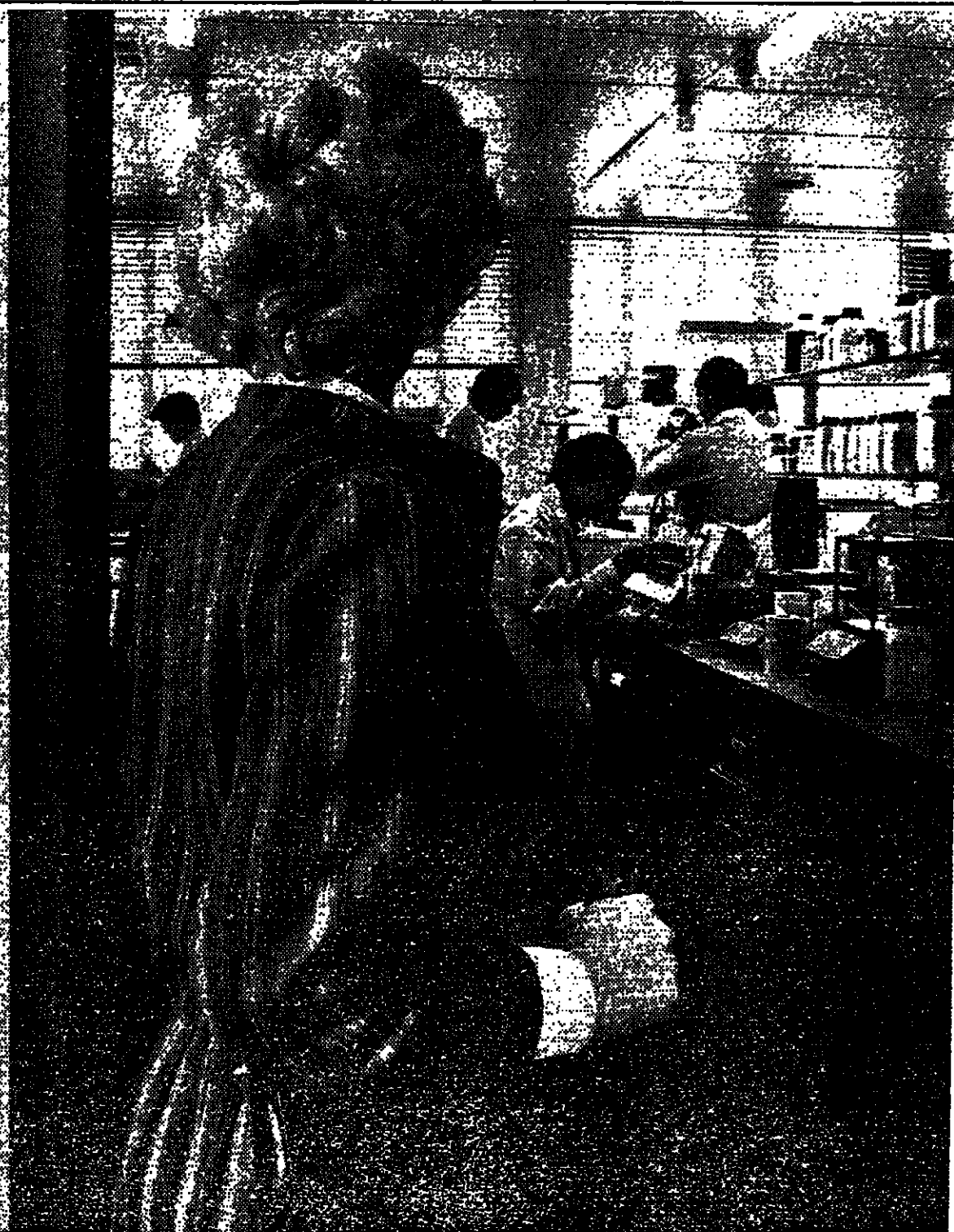
Scotland Yard officers are attached to Heathrow and Biggin Hill airports and the Port of London Authority, but the Metropolitan Police has a national role in dealing with Irish terrorists and extremists.

The unit was formed 101 years ago as the Irish Special Branch to deal with Fenian opponents to British rule. As such it was afforded special facilities to keep most of its activity secret.

During its history its operations have developed and spread to cover a wider sphere of political operations and intelligence. It is regularly used as the "harvesting arm" of the security services particularly in espionage investigations.

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SITUATIONS VACANT continued from page 10

MANAGEMENT & EXECUTIVE

MANAGER

For an established National Company, a Manager is required to manage the day-to-day running of the company. The successful candidate will be responsible for the management of the company's staff, the control of the company's finances, and the development of the company's business. The successful candidate will be responsible for the management of the company's staff, the control of the company's finances, and the development of the company's business.

REGIONAL MANAGER

A leading U.K. light forwarder, established international group, is seeking a Regional Manager for its operations in the South East of England. The successful candidate will be responsible for the management of the company's staff, the control of the company's finances, and the development of the company's business.

The company has a reputation for excellence in the field of light forwarding, and is seeking a Regional Manager who will be responsible for the management of the company's staff, the control of the company's finances, and the development of the company's business.

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CAREERS INFORMATION Skills of buying and selling

"RETAILING is simple," says Warren Gilchrist, personnel director of John Lewis. "Doing it well is the problem!" And it's a problem to which there is no simple answer—put four retailers together and you get four blueprints for "maximising profit per square metre of salesfloor."

Retailing employs 1.75 million people and covers 350,000 "outlets"—the jargon for all types of shops, which fall into several overlapping categories.

The main ones are variety chain stores, like Marks & Spencer; fashion stores like Jaeger; high-tech specialist chains like Dixons; and Sainsbury-style supermarkets.

There are hypermarkets like Sainsbury's, dealing in about 50 per cent. non-food, with the emphasis on rock-bottom prices, cash and carry, easy parking.

Note, too, department stores which, until recently, were in the doldrums but, after radical facelifts, are now reviving—they now stress their differences from the variety chains, rather than competing with them, and they tempt customers with relaxed atmosphere, comfort, frequently-changing merchandise geared to local "customer profiles," and, above all, personal service.

Finally, there are the independent, usually owner-managed. There is no standard career structure, just as there is no standard

of responsibility which include varied activities—chasing up deliveries, coping with security, staff deployment (staff management may or may not be a separate career ladder), and organising the stock room. Store management is roughly 80 per cent. thinking on your feet and 20 per cent. desk work, and the higher you are up the ladder, the more desk work there is.

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● Pale slithery printed satin for wrapover top (ashy pink, aqua and white) teamed with mid-calf multi-layered pink chiffon skirt. Outfit by Coterie is £345 in sizes 10 to 16, before Christmas at Dickins and Jones and Gemma of Wokingham. Huge drop diamond earrings £38, from Merola, Kensington Church Street, London W8.

Pictures by PAUL ARMIGER



● Sleek chic: karabell blue crêpe dress (above) with astonishing couture-like lattice-work hem. By Coterie, it is £355, also in red, navy or pink, at Harrods and Georgina De Ritter of Chelmsford in February. Diamanté necklace at Merola, £65. Russell and Bromley sandals in diamanté and black, £75.99. A far cry from skin's rugged image: the Bibby strapless suede dress (right) in cobalt blue with bow, has trailing fishtail hem. It is £210 at Dickins and Jones, Regent Street, London W1.



Glamour is back in style

BY SERENA SINCLAIR

GLAMOUR reigns again. The caress of butter-soft suede against your skin, the sensuousness of satin, the newly important look of pastel colours on a winter's night: these are pleasing women shoppers and making possible the success of two new firms.

It is not totally true that the new young businesses all gravitate to using crumpled cotton and rough wools. Sometimes pure quality lures them into the fashion trade, and it is so with the two new labels seen in this page.

Genette Bibby, producing from Greenwich some of the supplest and most feminine leather and suedes around the country, is a schoolteacher who tossed aside that old maxim, "if you can't, then teach."

She taught at the London College of Fashion, trained many a young designer whose work is now in our shops, then took the plunge to start her own fashion firm.

The Bibby clothes concentrate on the supple and indoors versions of suede, and you won't find hearty parka jackets (though there is a lovely classic calf coat). Dickins

and Jones did a turnover of £1,500 the first week on her clothes and haven't looked back since.

Women especially went for the sleek, strapless dress, the camisoles and full skirts, the slim skirts with tweedy-knit sweaters to tone, themselves edged in leather.

Petite, totally feminine, Genette Bibby works closely with her husband Peter, a fine arts graduate from the Royal Academy. Her spring palette: antique, white, cream and terracotta in plain silk

Usher's Max and Anne Bruh, knows his fashion trade from babyhood, and quickly signed up designer Bowker when Jean Varon (for whom Bowker had been designing) came apart under its new Indian bosses.

Bowker, graduate of the Royal College of Art Fashion School, has long been known in the trade for his couture approach to fashion, his superb sense of detail and glamour, and had worked for the Bruh family on graduation from college for about 10 years.

It is the North that wants glamour most of all, the two young men find, and many of their best evening dresses are off to Christmas parties, hunt balls, the lot - north of Watford. Londoners like the slithery satin tops and pyjamas, palely subtle, ideal for dinner parties in friends' homes.

Bowker is in tune with many of the top French and Italian designers in his love of the new sweet-pea pastels - a total contrast to the earthy tones and the hot Day-glo colours alike that have been flooding our shops.

BOOK REVIEW

A SHARP acerbic reference book plus a good meaty read: a combination rarely found, but it all occurs in a splendid new 16 volume all fashion-followers' bible - Colin McDowell's "Directory of Twentieth-Century Fashion" (Weidenfeld & Nicolson, £20).

No timid academic slouch, McDowell has contacted fashion designers all over the world for their particulars, then has not spoiled these out simply and purely for the student's benefit but added his own wry and dry opinions on each designer's fashion career.

Thus: "To everything there is a season, and Courrèges' reign as a leader was brief. By the end of the 1960s the space-age shocker had been grounded."

Or this: "Although he objects to the idea that he designs only for adolescent girls."

Or this: "Her romantic and theatrical approach to design seems appropriate for her base which is Hollywood."

McDowell will please purists - his respect for true talent is enormous. Therefore it is no surprise that among the stunning colour pictures the Capucci evening gown, a miracle of fluted satin, contains the view that his genius is second only to Balenciaga and Charles

Jamet (a view this reader shares). But he has fun with the jokey and innovative excursions of street fashion, too, and the volume (an absolute must for every fashion college in the world) is by no means a dull reference tome.

You may indeed yearn to wear the beach pyjamas by Worth (1932) or the marvel of diagonal inserts in the Adrian tailored suit (1940s) and McDowell's own sketches of these provide spice among the lush colour plates. Many a tatty argument, whether in newspaper offices or among crossword puzzle fans, will be solved

by a look at McDowell's glossary in the back of the volume, classifying poplins, pin tucks, ponchos.

McDowell's own qualifications for this perceptive tome! He has designed in Italy for Lancetti and Bigliotti, written and drawn for Italian and British newspapers and now teaches at St. Martin's School of Art. The marvel is not that the book exists and is good, but that nobody ever did such a book before.

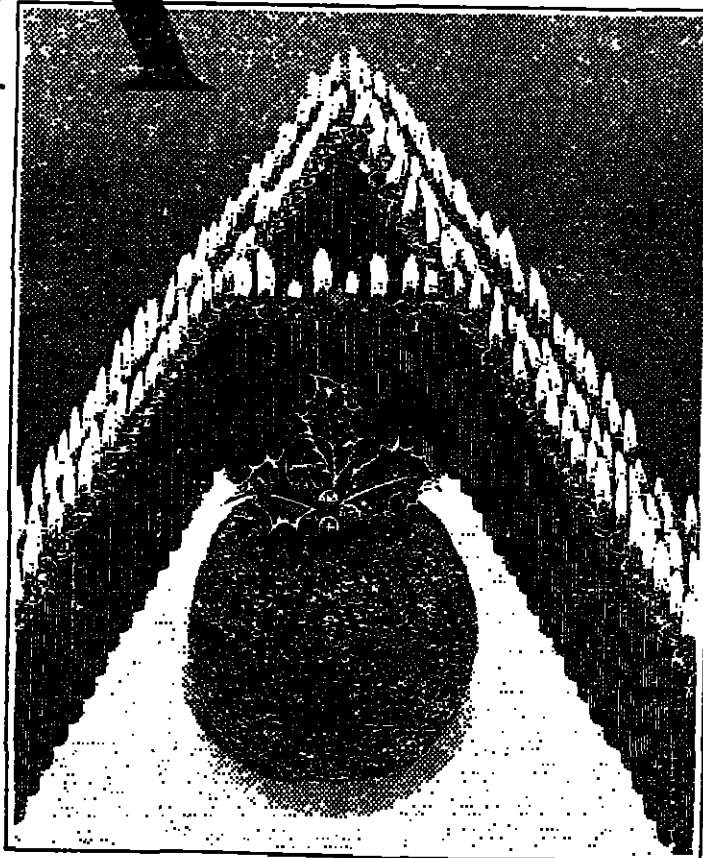
S.S.

Enjoy eating our words

In the second issue of A la carte...
Alternative Christmas Four people choose game, rose petal tart, smoked salmon sorbet.
Taillevent The three-star Paris restaurant: its secret pudding recipes, its hand-made cheeses. Parsnips The gourmet treatment from Jane Grigson. Cheese with holes Can you tell the difference between Emmental and Gruyère? Chocolate Why dark is in and milk is out. Plus delicate Korean cookery, almond crepes suzettes, the gungiest Christmas pudding.

A la carte

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● Left: bargain fashion jodhpurs in cream cotton with a peach skin finish, £19.50, from Adams and Hunter, 13 Savile Row, London W1, sizes 10 to 14; pink angora sweater, £21.99, from a selection at Miss Selfridge branches. Pearls from a selection at Fenwick, New Bond Street, London W1.

Pictures by KENNETH MASON

● Right: Miss Selfridge's version of the jodhpur look in beige cord, £16.99, also in black, brown, green, sizes 10 to 14; fluffy white sweater, also in black, brown, blue, red or jade, £22.99, sizes 10 to 14, from all branches of Miss Selfridge; shoes from Next branches.



Country style comes to town



THE young are latching on to the fashionable jodhpur look with gusto.

In Milan, Krizia showed high-fashion jodhpurs in wool or leather, to partner stunning animal print sweaters. In New York, Ralph Lauren showed shocking pink tweed hacking jackets and last month, in London, Arabella Pollen showed jodhpurs in cream satin for party wear, teaming them with a matching skirt.

No country bumpkin look, this autumn's liking for jodhpurs: it's high-fashion, designed for wearing about town. The young add a soft angora sweater in an unexpected and decidedly unhorsy pastel colour, toss a mass of fake pearl ropes around their necks and knot a silk headscarf

● Left: cream wool jodhpurs £34, sizes 10 to 14, by Penny Black; tweedy knitted jacket in oatmeal or brick red, £64 by French Connection, both from Fenwick. Silk scarves, £58 each from Hermes, 155 New Bond Street, London W1.

snood-style around their heads. Boots are seldom worn. Little lace-up shoes and Argyle-patterned socks are more favoured, and hacking jackets or men's overcoats.

You can find excellent fashion jodhpurs at places like Miss Selfridge and riding shops are sources for quality and make, although at higher prices. Some of the nicest and best cut I've seen are a special bargain line that is being produced by a new and prestigious horsey emporium Adams and Hunter in Savile Row.

BY ANN CHUBB

FASHION NOTEBOOK

Designer comes down to earth...

EARTH mothers of the world: relax. You are not abandoned by the fashion world, however much you may be reading of the new sheath dresses.

Issey Miyake, that enormously influential Japanese fashion designer headquartered in Paris for many years, still loves you.

Earth colours with rough intriguing weaves characterised his spring collection this past week, shown under the lower-priced Plantation label at its Fulham Road, London, shop.

You get slimmed-down jumpsuits, woven-stripe duster coats teaming rust and plum worn floating over mock-aprons (likewise striped) topping baggy plain-coloured pants.

You get waffle-weave cotton jersey in delectable plaids such as pale curry, soft peach, terracotta, harebell, blue and white. These are scissored into tunics over-cropped full pants, or into scoop-neck chemise dresses.

Issey enthusiasts will rejoice that he still offers some of the handsomest woven cottons on the fashion scene, like the black with tiny blue spot, the mock-kat waves of check and stripe in grey on white. It is always a weaver with this Japanese designer, and an interesting one at that.

If you are not buying a stitch in the next few months you can at least note new ways of handling and your existing with chunky pullovers now is to roll the hem up under, so it is a baggy blouson.

S. S.

Packing a poncho



PILING on the sweaters, now that the cold has finally struck? We all are, and suddenly realising too that not many coats in our lives can accommodate those chunky knits underneath. Perfect answer for the next cool and rainy day: a dashing black poncho (pictured by PAUL ARMIGER) from Harvey Nichols, London SW1, at a neat price of £20. The attached cowl collar is in bright pink or blue. The court shoes are from Russell and Bromley branches.

SERENA SINCLAIR

KNITTING PRETTY WITH A GOOD YARN

LIBERTY has always been a marvellous treasure trove of fabrics and accessories for the home dressmaker and now it is setting out to do the same for the ever-increasing army of home knitters.

The store's small department selling Yarn Store wools has been well established for some time, but now part of the cotton fabrics area on the second floor has become a complete new knitting yarns department.

Aimed at the top and adventurous end of the home-knitter market, it includes yarns from interesting Continental firms not very widely stocked in Britain, such as Anny Blatt, Berger du Nord, Filatura di Grosa and Samband.

British names represented are well-known ones like Patricia Roberts, Emu and Sunbair, and the yarns displayed have a distinct tendency to novelty: lots of soft, bright and sometimes flecked mohairs, bright flecked tweeds, clever cottons and evening yarns.

There are luxuries like cashmere, alpaca and silk mixes and even a mix of feathers and cotton. Knitting kits from well-known names like Sandy Black, Kaffe Fassett, and Sarah Dallas are also on sale.

Avril Groom

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TWO PLOs

IF NOTHING ELSE, the long-delayed meeting in Amman of the Palestine National Council, which likes to be thought of as a Palestinian parliament in exile, has underlined that after 10 years of internal strife and military setbacks the Palestine Liberation Organisation in its present form is finished. Having rigged a quorum, and accepted the protection of the king who drove him from Jordan in the exceptionally bloody events of the "Black September" of 1970, Mr YASSER ARAFAT, for long the undisputed leader of the PLO, must now know that all chance has gone of reuniting the organisation's several factions.

It is not easy to feel sorry for Mr ARAFAT who, although now a "moderate," helped begin a Middle East revolution. But of late he has been having a terrible time of it. Having been driven from Jordan, his PLO in Beirut developed into a surrogate government (which toppled poor Lebanon into chaos) only to be destroyed by the Israeli invasion. Syria dealt a knockout blow to Mr ARAFAT's chances of a comeback and the hatred existing between him and President Assad lives on. Effectively there will now be two PLOs. Mr ARAFAT may maintain the loyalty of most Palestinians including those in Israeli-occupied territory, but it seems certain that Syria will insist on a rival organisation being established in Damascus. This group will have military muscle through some 6,000 guerrillas, and a strong power base, and will no doubt be manipulated at will by the Syrian leader. King Hussein's proposal for a joint Jordanian-Palestinian initiative for a peace settlement with Israel that could be laid before an international conference on the Middle East has predictably been condemned in Damascus. But Mr ARAFAT's PLO has no way forward without the king. Whether Mr ARAFAT and his loyalists appreciate it remains to be seen.

ALLIANCE STRATEGY

MOST LABOUR MPs must know that in today's Commons debate they face another test, after last week's horrors, of their ability to look like an effective parliamentary party. Tory MPs, meanwhile, whatever they make of Mr HEATH's latest utterances, are conscious of interesting developments inside their own party. Neither side, perhaps, can afford to ignore what has been happening to their common rivals: two months after the Liberal Assembly in Bournemouth DAVID STREX and DAVID OWEN have set about repairing the damage to the Alliance wrought there by Liberal activists of a certain kind. Last week they agreed to a lasting partnership "as equals" while asserting that the two parties would retain independent rights over policy. This makes practical sense by placing much of the onus for future co-operation on the leaders and sidesteps the inbuilt factionalism of many of their supporters.

There is little disguising the fact that Alliance defence policies are a mess or that agreement on which party will fight which seat could easily degenerate into a series of nasty, local rows, or even that most Liberals want a merger of the two parties and most SDP members don't. Since the two Davids have in the past found surprisingly little difficulty in agreeing matters between themselves, they reason that policy-making by diktat is for the moment preferable to endless Alliance splits. But it remains open to doubt whether the leaders alone can weld the Alliance into a cohesive force. Dr OWEN, faced with the burden of keeping alive a young party with only shallow political roots, senses that he needs to draw support from Tory voters, but the policies that will appeal to them anger the Liberal-Left and could alienate traditional Labour voters.

At the last General Election, Alliance candidates were given a relatively easy ride: for tactical reasons their policies were virtually ignored by their opponents. Next time their manifestos will be put under the microscope. In the shorter term, Alliance hopes of getting their electoral bandwagon rolling again will depend on by-election successes. The Conservatives, who have awoken to the threat the Alliance poses, particularly since the SDP victory in Portsmouth South, cannot allow the differences between SDP and Liberal to go unexplored again. Well aware of this weakness, Mr STREX and Dr OWEN have chosen to make their television appearances together so that their views may be seen in perfect accord. For the moment their message to the voters will be: so long as we agree it matters little if our parties are at odds.

CND PLAGUE ON OUR HOUSE

DILEMMAS ARE THE STUFF of politics. The CND, after its relatively successful pose as a political hermaphrodite, is being obliged increasingly to show us the shape of its feet. For years, its militants have denised as "smears" assertions that they are anti-Western or pro-Soviet, claiming to be genuine nuclear pacifists. "A plague on both your houses" could be a convenient slogan, even though most of the plague was destined for the house in which we live. When Soviet spokesmen reacted with incomprehending hostility to platonic criticism of Soviet weapons by E. P. THOMPSON, CND seemed to have won its accolade. Now that is lost with yesterday's pusillanimity at its annual conference.

The conference had to leave behind its abstractions and deal with the hard fact that whereas installation of American missiles in Europe in relatively small numbers has been completed for the present phase, and the new phase will take several years, new medium-range Soviet missiles are pouring into East Germany and Czechoslovakia at an annual rate several times greater than the total number of missiles at Greenham Common. The conference must also recognise that, whereas the protesters and their dupes had argued that installation of cruise and Pershing would preclude arms talks with the Soviet Union for good, it has predictably had precisely the opposite effect.

In order to maintain its credibility, CND would have been well advised to sway with the wind, and pay lip service to the principle of reciprocity. However, the Communists at the conference thought otherwise. The Pope's infallibility may be eroded, but CERNENKO's never, lest the Communists' whole belief-structure come crashing to the ground. For the sake of unity, the Communist view has prevailed. Let CND protest its impartiality till it is red in the face, its nature has been made unmistakably clear in the interval between the Kinnocks' departure for Moscow and their return.



COMMENTARY

T. E. Utey

WHY is it that when my fellow columnists approach the hackneyed, boring and thoroughly unoriginal subject of who will be leader of the Tory party if Mrs Thatcher proves not to be immortal, they never mention the name of John Biffen, Leader of the House of Commons?

I think this to be a strange omission for various reasons. To begin with, it is now fairly clear that if and when Mrs Thatcher goes, she will (excluding the possibility of the lethal bus which, as Lord Carrington has pointed out, would never dare be the victim of her failures but of her successes).

She will probably win the next election or, at any rate, she will not lose it conclusively. The economy probably will get somewhat better, enough to inspire hope in the future and to provide a retrospective defence for past policies.

But, precisely because of all this, the demand will be for a leader with a gentler, more relaxed image. The time for high tragedy will be over; people will want a bit of drawing-room comedy. This will be gravely unjust to Mrs Thatcher, for, for her determination and crusading zeal, it is arguable that nothing would have been achieved at all. Nevertheless, politics is unjust, and the hour calls for the man.

Now all those who are commonly mentioned as the legates in this contest are men of very distinct political character and most of them men of very distinct political stance. Mr Tebbit is deemed to be a man of the Right; Mr Walker a man of the Left; Mr Heseltine might occupy either position, depending on when the event takes place, but whatever position he occupies, will be stridently defined and vigorously defended.

By contrast, Mr Biffen (who, at 54 is the right sort of age) is a man of quiet ambiguity, the quality which, on my analysis, will be most in demand. He calls himself a monetarist in fiscal matters, but a monetarist of his own kind: he does not believe, for example, that tax reductions (in principle he thinks a desirable on general philosophical grounds) necessarily produce incentives to greater production; he believes that the essential structure of the Welfare State must be preserved and that, within the limits of fiscal probity, a bit more should be spent on personal services for the elderly and disabled, though he is sceptical of pumping ever more money into roads and sewers.

A former disciple of Enoch Powell, he regards himself, not as a man of the Right or of the Left, but as a "nationalist," who puts the unity of the Kingdom before all other considerations.

As a Tory politician, he has always had friends on both sides of the party (Jim Prior for instance) and as Leader of the Commons he is warmly regarded by quite a large number of the Opposition. He is immensely relaxed on the question of whether Labour antics in the House now constitute a threat to parliamentary government.

Such things—organised disruption have happened often enough before, he claims; and Neil Kinnock is a most amiable man, a "pragmatic radical," who has the task (admittedly difficult) of working himself into the same role as Clement Attlee.

Now, if all this sounds a bit too "reconciling," let it also be observed that John Biffen has developed a particular kind of effective but inoffensive satire which carries an extraordinary sting. He was, I recall, the first Tory member to have the courage to rough up Mr Jack Ashley, who enjoys (though he never seeks) the protection afforded to the disabled (Mr Ashley is deaf) when talking sanctimonious nonsense.

Add to all this a further and pre-eminent consideration: the hand that wields the dagger does not inherit the crown. John Biffen carries no offensive weapon; his particular form of vanity would oblige him to insist that every member of the Tory party had gone down on his knees to beg him to accept the leadership before he would do so.

So watch this man: you will have to do so for a long time. What is more, he is sociologically O.K.: he is not an Etonian, but a west country farmer's son with a slight burr in his voice—appealing both to egalitarians and to Tory traditionalists. His latest *bon mot*: "I do not walk hopefully, I walk blindfold."

SO Peter (like Alice) has been "at it again" a pompous lecture saying (when decoded) how nice it would be to have Disraeli back, or at any rate, Lord Stockton and how awful it is to have the present, divisive Prime Minister. Should Mr Walker resign from the Cabinet, which was the custom in the old days in such cases? I think not. That was all right when Cabinet government genuinely existed; we do not have that sort of thing any more. Since Ministers have no opportunity to influence anything which does not directly concern them, they must be allowed a measure of freedom to express dissent. I don't like it, but there it is.

Can the UN put Aphrodite's island together again?

THIS morning the Secretary-General of the United Nations embarks upon the third round of so-called "proximity talks" about the future of Cyprus.

It is the nearest thing to Aces on an international scale: since the Greek Cypriot leader President Kyprianou is recognised internationally as the head of State of the island republic while the Turkish leader Rauf Denktaş is recognised by nobody apart from Turkey as the head of State of the Turkish Republic of North Cyprus, the two must remain apart in separate rooms, with the UN interposed between them.

IN theory both parties are committed to the vision of a reconstituted federal nation, with the Greeks running their own affairs in the southern three-fifths of the island, and the Turks theirs in the northern two-fifths, and a federal government reconstituted from participants from both sides to oversee it all.

In practice it is hard to imagine either side offering the concessions essential to overcome the legacy of 15 years of intermittent communal bloodletting, followed by 10 years of physical separation, since it is not immediately apparent what either side has to gain from compromise.

The Turkish north of the island, which I visited earlier this month, is, by comparison with the Greek south, underdeveloped, poor, and underpopulated. Much of the interior resembles an armed camp, where the Turkish army defends the lines it took 10 years ago. Both trade and tourism are hamstrung by the Greek embargo. Bulk cargoes—which consist almost exclusively of citrus—can be moved out to Britain, West Germany and the Arab countries by ships chartered for the purpose.

But the development of small scale local manufacturing enterprises for the export markets is hampered by the absence of calls from the regular international shipping lines which have not docked at Famagusta since the Turks marched in. And acute shortage of water supplies is obliging the Turkish Cypriot administration to encourage a move from citrus to viticulture, although both experience and market access are lacking.

Tourism consists predominantly of visitors from the Turkish mainland. But since the Turkish authorities reduced domestic tariffs and liberated quotas earlier this year the attractions of a trip to northern Cyprus for a shopping spree have vastly diminished. The flow of visitors from western Europe has also shrunk: 20,000 in 1983; 10,000 in the first nine months of 1984. Package tour operators are threatened with exclusion from the Greek and Greek Cypriot markets if they ad-

vertise tours to Northern Cyprus; and since these are major markets, they understandably refrain.

The Turkish Cypriots are thrown back on reliance on fringe operators without a Greek exposure; and to make matters worse charter flights will not fly into the North Cyprus airport east of Nicosia, since Greek control of the airspace denies it insurance cover. So tourists are committed to the tender mercies of Turkish airlines, which flies them in via Izmir or Istanbul with a starkness of comfort and a loucheness of service characteristic of monopoly.

President Denktaş and his followers dream dreams of international recognition. One is told tales of Moslem States upon the brink (the newly independent Brunei apparently contemplated striking a blow for Moslem soli-

national agencies bestowed upon the South compared with the crumbs that come their way.

Yet they also fiercely insist that they will soldier on indefinitely if they have to, and it is not obvious why they should not do so provided only that the mainland Turks continue to support them; and of that support they appear to be well assured. The contrast with the bustling prosperity of the South may be irksome, but the Turkish community today evidently feels itself secure, which it had good reason not to feel until the two communities were separated in 1974.

A negotiated settlement between North and South might restore the free access of the North to the outside world, but even then it is improbable that the North would make giant strides to catch up with the South. The Turks will never be a match for their fellow-islanders as traders and entrepreneurs: that is not their nature. And it is hard to see them welcoming back the Greeks to run the hotels and tourist facilities they used to own in the North—although Varosha is regarded as a bargaining counter, for surrender to the Greeks as part of a comprehensive deal.

Cassandras speculate about the possibility of military action by one or other of the sponsoring nations—the Greeks from the South, or the Turks from the North—to resolve the problem by the sword. This, too, seems inherently improbable. A military occupation of the southern half of the island would most probably embroil the Turks in open-ended guerrilla warfare, and any attempt to evict the Greek majority of the island population would land Turkey in the international doghouse.

The Greeks, for their part, can hardly fail to reflect that whenever since the 1914-18 war they have tried conclusions with their eastern neighbours it is they who have been worsted.

CERTAINLY accidents can happen when you have two armed camps confronted in a Mediterranean island of modest size, just as accidents can happen in Berlin. But just as the Berlin Wall—for all it says about the unacceptability of the East German régime to its citizens—has stabilised the former German capital for more than 30 years, so the separation of the two communities in Cyprus looks like proving a good deal more stable and less explosive than what went before.

Only the provisional endures: and meanwhile those who prefer tranquillity on holiday to fleshpots and high-rise flats could do a great deal worse than try the coast of Northern Cyprus. So long as they can stand the trip by Turkish airlines, that is.

LONDON DAY BY DAY

council is split between Yasser Arafat's "moderates" and the Syrian-backed hardliners who are boycotting the meeting, there is the intriguing presence of Saleh Khalaf, Arafat's political deputy.

Khalaf is better known as Abu Iyad, leader of the Black September terrorist group, and it was he who sent a hit team to the Arab summit in Rabat 10 years ago to murder Hussein.

The Israelis prevented this by tipping off the Moroccans and the gang were arrested—but Khalaf was unrepentant. In a speech at Beirut University later he shouted: "This was not the first time that we have tried to liquidate Hussein and it will not be the last." I can only assume that the King will keep an eye on him this week.

Shareholders in the Perth-based miners' firm Arthur Bell have no excuse if they ever fail to recognise their chairman Raymond Miguel. His photograph appears no less than eight times in the first six pages of the firm's annual report—something only justified perhaps, but the disclosure in the same document that he collected pay of £145,116 last year compared with £121,175 in 1983.

Crossing the floor

AN ANNOUNCEMENT today that David Woodhead, a senior member of the publicity team at the Left-wing Inner London Education Authority, has been appointed national director of ISIS, the Independent Schools Information Service, is bound to raise a few educationalists' eyebrows.

Woodhead, a product of Queen Elizabeth Grammar School, Wake, preparatory and public schools from field, will take over the £200,000-a-year job promoting Britain's 1,500 the immensely successful Tim Devlin on Jan. 1.

How his "change of emphasis" will go down with Frances Morrell, I.L.E.A.'s formidable leader, is unclear. But Woodhead's conversion to the private cause seems complete—he is planning to send his two boys, aged five and seven, to an ISIS-member independent prep school.

Now the movie

AS IF WE DO NOT get enough of the miners' strike in the newspapers and on television news bulletins, the BBC is already working on a television play about the wretched affair.

Predictably, perhaps, it is being written by Barry Hines who scripted the nuclear horror film "Threads", and depending on the outcome of the strike, it could reach the screens as early as March or April.

The good news—at least from the



acting profession's point of view—is that the play will follow the fortunes of a mining family during the strike and that Arthur Scargill will not be represented amongst the cast.

Sparks might fly...

THE RAF's new multi-role Tornado aircraft is certainly living up to its description, if a story doing the mess rounds is correct.

Apparently one instructor has been capitalising on the versatility of the aircraft by running his pig-farm and forecasts through the aircraft's main on-board computer.

When I asked a Very Senior RAF friend if there was any truth in all this, his response was interesting: "I don't know, but if I catch the chap he'll be in it up to his neck."

Fair deal food

AS ALWAYS the most fascinating detail of the Gooz Food Guide, out today, is discovering who recommends which restaurant.

Two MPs feature among the gastronomic monitors: Geoffrey Flinberg, M.P. for Hampstead, who recommends the £14 a head Tollbridge restaurant in Guist, Norfolk; and Julian Critchley, M.P. for Aldershot, who suggests the Number Six restaurant in Harrogate, where a meal for two will cost £30 to £40.

But the soundest recommendation of all must surely come from Sir Gordon Borrie. He gives his approval to the £12 a head Erika Hotel in Oban and the Laverloch Hotel in Port William—where dinner is typically £34 a head.

Sir Gordon is, of course, the Director General of Fair Trading.

Spirit of co-operation

FROM A Dorset parish magazine: "Following recent difficulties and a request from the vicar, the volunteers in the graveyard have kindly agreed to keep as quiet as possible during the next week's meeting of the Choral Society."

PETERBOROUGH

LETTERS

Howe's decision on UNESCO

From Prof. ALAN THOMPSON
SIR—Sir Geoffrey Howe's statement on the United Nations Educational, Scientific, and Cultural Organisation (Unesco) deserves widespread support from the public. It is an extremely difficult decision to make.

On the one hand Unesco has done some very worthwhile work (as I have written elsewhere); on the other, some of its activities have been bizarre in the extreme.

Research pursued by British research councils (e.g. medicine, science and engineering, and environmental and social sciences) is quite properly subject to the closest scrutiny, monitoring and assessment of results.

There is probably no other country in the world which takes such trouble to ensure that its taxpayer receives value for money in the conduct of research activities.

If a British research council had conducted its affairs in the same way as Unesco, the Government would have been justified in sacking the entire council and winding up its affairs forthwith.

Sir Geoffrey Howe has plainly served notice on Unesco that it has one final chance to mend its ways. I personally hope that it will take this opportunity.

As a strong supporter of the United Nations, and as someone who has participated in international research, I consider that there is a need for an international forum on educational, scientific and cultural affairs.

Whether it should take the form of Unesco as at present constituted and administered is a very much more debatable proposition.

It is absurd to attack Sir Geoffrey's statement as weakening the authority of the United Nations. Measures such as those being advanced by the British Foreign and Commonwealth Office to bring sound management and better judgement to the conduct of a United Nations agency are the best way to restore public confidence in the objectives and policies of UNO.

One final word of warning to Sir Geoffrey (although I doubt whether he needs it). Make sure that any reforms accepted by Unesco are real reforms, and lend themselves to objective assessment and follow-up.

ALAN THOMPSON
Edinburgh

Guarantee on roads

SIR—Mr David Field's letter (Nov. 16) argues for a warranty system in road construction on the basis that we are paying large sums of money for reconstruction of our roads and bridge structures because the builders, owing to national specifications, have no further responsibility.

It is the duty of the consulting engineer to design the road and bridge works in accordance with agreed standards and for the contractor to build these in accordance with the drawings and specifications for materials and workmanship.

A significant proportion of the design standards and specification for construction are British Standards. The contractor's work is supervised by the consultant and rigorous quality assurance procedures are adopted. It is only on rare occasions that there are defects after completion. Any defect due to inadequate construction found during the maintenance period (usually one year of service) is put right by the contractor at his expense. There is scope for redress from both the parties concerned if other faults are found.

However all the reconstruction works that have been undertaken on our roads over the last decade have been necessary purely because they had reached their full life in terms of traffic. The motorways had become a victim of their own popularity, and attracted much more heavy traffic than was expected. It is not every motorway that suffers endless hold-ups as a result of this reconstruction. Over a whole year, it is only about five per cent. of the total mileage of motorways that is restricted. The other 95 per cent. is carrying comparatively more traffic more safely than any other roads in the country.

K. SRISKANDAN
Chief Highway Engineer,
Dept. of Transport,
London, S.W.1.

Allergy traps

SIR—I was interested to read Mr Stuart Whitley's letter (Nov. 2), regarding his "below par" health, which was belatedly diagnosed as being attributable to food allergies.

The severe lack of knowledge of allergy problems within the Health Service is causing many people to be suffering from debilitating symptoms. On top of this, untold damage is done by doctors and others when, unable to find abnormalities by the usual methods of detecting disease, they conclude that the patient must be a neurotic hypochondriac. This causes further stress within the patient's family.

So much suffering could be avoided if patients' food allergies could be detected, as in most cases it would simply be a matter of excluding the offending foods.

A more difficult problem is the increasing occurrence of those with chemical allergies. The symptoms produced by environmental allergies can be very serious to the point of being life threatening and of course, one cannot avoid environmental factors in the same way as foods.

How much longer have such people to suffer before orthodox medical opinion changes?

(Mrs) R. STEPHENSON
Bedford.

Speed of light

SIR—Mr L. E. Lane (Nov. 18) claims jousting knights clashed at 40 mph. They were not riding hunters like the modern jousting knights to be seen in a modern pageant, in fact, the war horse was heavily built, and was said to be somewhere between our medium and heavy draught, but smaller. Moreover, since jousting was training for war, it can be supposed the war horse was dressed for jousting in his battle caparison of cloth and armour.

Perhaps 24 mph is nearer the mark.

M. E. FEW
Tunbridge Wells, Kent.

Favourite buy

SIR—Are your readers aware that back copies of your newspaper are most sought after by sea anglers for the packing of rag and lug worm? It appears that there is a preservative in either the ink or the paper which will keep alive these worms for periods extending to a month. Other newspapers seem unsuitable for the purpose.

D. MELVILLE-HAYES
Clacton-on-Sea, Essex.

Artificial heart for man given 'a week to live'

By LYN BALL in New York

A 52-YEAR-OLD man suffering from severe heart disease and diabetes yesterday became the second person to have an artificial heart implanted in his chest.

Before the operation at Louisville, Kentucky, the patient, Mr William Schroeder, had been given only a week to live with his own heart.

Now he has a metal and plastic Jarvik-7 heart.

Mr Schroeder, a retired quality inspector at an army munitions depot, was described as "resigned" and "realistic" about his chances for long-term survival.

He acknowledged on the eve of the operation, as he signed a 17-page consent form at the Humana Hospital, the odds were against him.

A Roman Catholic, he requested the last rites of the church before entering surgery.

Operation to music

But in the operating theatre, the mood was buoyant as the 22-strong surgical team began procedures it has rehearsed repeatedly in recent days.

Music filled the room because Dr William DeVries, the surgeon who implanted the first artificial heart in Dr Barney Clark two years ago, likes to have music during an operation "to break the tension."

For yesterday's surgery he chose works by Vivaldi, Mendelssohn and the jazz saxophonist Grover Washington, and a selection of baroque lute music.

Mr Schroeder, of Jasper, Indiana, has cardiomyopathy, a progressive wasting of the heart muscle, caused by a heart attack he suffered in 1982.

Dr Clark, the dentist who survived for 112 days with his Jarvik-7 heart, also suffered from cardiomyopathy, in his case apparently triggered by a viral infection. He died after multiple organ failures.

'Not optimistic'

Mr Schroeder smoked cigarettes for 30 years, but stopped after he had his heart attack.

He was not a candidate to receive a human heart because of his age—two years above the usual limit—and because the steroid drugs used in a transplant would aggravate his diabetes.

He underwent double-bypass heart surgery in March, 1983, but it did not significantly improve his condition.

At a Press briefing before the surgery began, Dr Allan Lansing, medical director of the

Humana Heart Institute International, was asked whether Mr Schroeder would be able to lead a normal life.

"I would not be optimistic," he replied.

American medical commentators pointed out yesterday that the shift of the artificial heart programme from the University of Utah, a state medical centre in Salt Lake City, to the private Humana institution in Louisville reflected a new element of commercialisation.

American taxpayers financed the development of the artificial heart through some \$160 million (£130 million) in grants, largely through the National Heart Institute.

Utah taxpayers contributed to the programme with the public funding of the University of Utah.

BOMBER CLUB DROPS DATES FROM TITLE

By Our Air Correspondent

The Bomber Command (1939-45) Association has decided to drop the wartime dates from its title and widen eligibility for membership to all those who served in the Command up to 1967 when it was absorbed into RAF Strike Command.

Membership stands at 4,500 out of the 25,000 who can now apply to join. The new association, which will depend on donations instead of subscriptions for funds can be contacted through the Bomber Command Museum at RAF Hendon.

Following the death of Marshal of the RAF Sir Arthur Harris, the new President is Air Vice-Marshal DCT Bennett, who was also recently appointed President of the Aircrew Association.

BIG BOND WINNERS

Winning numbers in the weekly premium bond draw are: £100,000, 35AW 513397 (winner comes from Enfield); £50,000, 192B 875409 (Barnet); £25,000 14PT 089630 (Merseyside).



Mr William Schroeder kissing his granddaughter Tracy when members of his family visited him before he underwent his artificial heart implant operation at the Humana Hospital in Louisville, Kentucky, yesterday.

Below: A model of the metal and plastic heart.

GP WORKS FROM JAIL

By Our Staff Correspondent in Austin, Texas

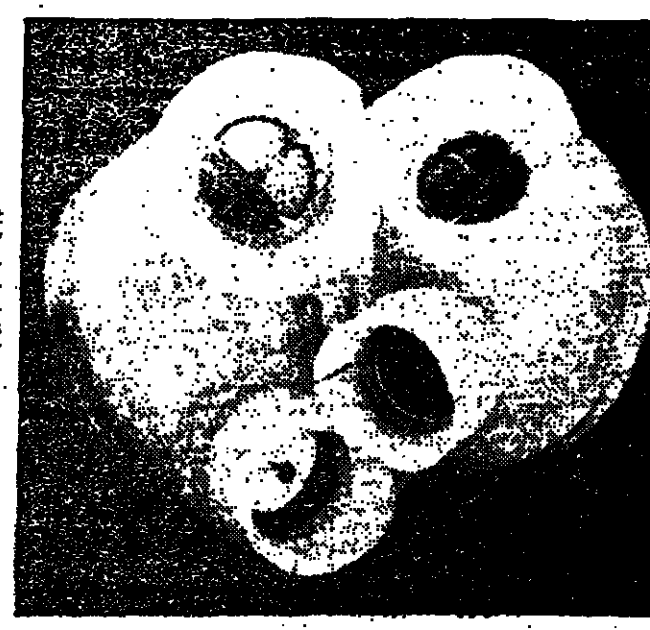
DR ROY LEE, the only physician in San Saba County, Texas, is in jail, but the sheriff is installing a telephone so that his patients can phone him in his cell.

The doctor will even be let out — under escort of a deputy — to attend emergency cases.

This is not the first time Dr Lee has had to work his practice from the jail. He was imprisoned last December for failing to pay child support, but a citizens' collection paid the bill to free the doctor.

Now he has been jailed again for contempt of court after failing to turn over documents concerning a drug company's \$8,000 (£6,600) claim for unpaid bills.

There is currently only one patient in the hospital, half a mile from the jail.



COSTA DRUG GANG TERROR

By TIM BROWN in Madrid

RESIDENTS of a small Costa del Sol resort, many of them retired Britons, yesterday demanded a crackdown on armed drug addicts now terrorising the town.

At a meeting of 800 people in the cinema at Nerja, once a sleepy fishing town 30 miles along the coast east of Malaga, residents said they were prepared to take their demands to King Juan Carlos.

They said their once peaceful life had turned to a life of fear caused by the wave of robberies and muggings carried out, mostly by drug addicts in search of cash to pay for their next fix.

The organisers of the protest, mainly Spanish businessmen, sent out posters declaring: "People of Nerja: no more robberies, holdups etc. Come to the meeting. We need your help."

They refused to be named or photographed, claiming that could expose them to danger from a drug ring operating in the resort of 12,000.

A petition, sent to the Civil Governor of Malaga Province, demanded more police in the town, the setting up of an emergency telephone link, and identity checks on suspicious newcomers.

Covered inside villa

One British couple told how twice in four nights thieves came to their luxury villa. Mr Martin Weeks, 56, and his wife Ethel, 50, said the first time they covered inside while the thieves tried to force their way in. A shotgun was fired in the garden when the gang failed.

The next time, when the couple went away, the villa was ransacked and valuables taken.

"I am terrified and at the end of my tether," said Mrs Weeks, originally from Devon. "We love Spain and do not want to leave. But we didn't come here to be frightened."

Mr David Toft, 48, a former Brighton policeman, who now runs a restaurant, recalled the night that two masked thugs came in with sawn-off shotguns shouting "Money, money."

"They snatched £300 from the till, took my signet ring and nearly £100 from customers. This hasn't frightened me off. But it is time for action. Nerja has a drug problem and too few police."

Mr Davey Jones, from Swansea, who runs a fish and chip shop, has been robbed four times. "This used to be such a quiet town," he said. "The police seem to have adopted a defeatist attitude."

Good Food Guide finds 'gaping hole'

By BRENDA PARRY

THE 1985 Good Food Guide, published today, recommends more than 1,000 restaurants in the British Isles.

They range from a tiny Buddhist vegetarian cafe in the East End of London with good food that is "phenomenally cheap" to a country house hotel which charges £3 for coffee and will sell a copy of its menu for £2.50.

In general eating out in style costs an awful lot of money. Meals can cost around £40 with wine for just one person.

But as Mr Drew Smith, the editor, points out: "The guide operates to monitor what is going on in the catering world and sadly there is a gaping hole where there should be restaurants serving good food and wine for around £10 a head."

He claims that most London restaurants are "dated, overpriced and cynical" and that many have grown "fat and lazy on expense accounts."

He says that while the good news is that a new generation of prestige restaurants has emerged this year, the bad news is that the only place where there has not been a proportional increase is London, and that it "no longer matches the expectations it raises except where the very best restaurants are concerned."

Poor value

One of the reasons for this is that the ever popular French restaurants have become increasingly "cynical and poor value" so much so that the words "French restaurant" ought to be read like a red neon warning sign—"Beware frozen food, inept service, poor sauces, big bill."

But there are some very fine French restaurants in London including Chez Nico, Battersea, Le Gavroche, Mayfair, and Tante Claire, Chelsea, who all get the guide's premier 16/20 rating.

The other winners of this rating are the Riverside at Holford, Cornwall, and the Manor and Chet Saisons at Great Milton in Oxfordshire, the Manor where the coffee alone is £3. Even so the guide estimates you can eat there for £22-£38 per head.

If that sounds way out of your price range, you might consider the Cherry Orchard, in Globe Road, Bethnal Green, where you can take your own wine and savour califlower soup, chilliburgers with sweet and sour sauce followed by the delicious sounding vegan fruit cake all for around £5.

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INVESTMENT & BUSINESS

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counts a
blessing in
disguise

THE UNITED STATES' budget deficit will take a bite out of America's economic hide during the next year but contrary to popular belief, America's troubles will be Europe's blessing, according to 1980 Nobel laureate Lawrence Klein.

Prof. Klein, former economic adviser to President Jimmy Carter, believes that most of the industrial nations in Europe, and Japan, will all record growth rates in excess of 5 p.c. during 1985, the dollar will fall, and interest rates in the United States and Europe will ease. In addition, the two-year-long injection of international investment funds into the United States that has drained European and Asian markets, but enabled the American economy to absorb the enormous government budget deficits, will reverse.

When Prof. Klein speaks, a lot of people listen. The Nobel

THE
AMERICAN
INTERVIEW

laureate, who was awarded the prize for his computer work with economic models, is the director of the Wharton School of Finance's Wharton Economic Metrics. The Wharton team still enjoys a reputation as the best forecasting institution in America.

Unlike a number of economists who extolled the dangers of the Reagan budget deficits at the beginning of the President's first four-year term, Prof. Klein did not. This is not to say the economist does not think the Government's overruns are dangerous, it is instead, a matter of timing.

"Everything looked good about the deficit up until now," explains Prof. Klein. "We got to a positive state—high growth rates, low inflation, robust expansion—at the cost of building up that deficit."

"The price that Great Britain paid in setting down its inflation during the last few years was reflected in very high unemployment rates. Our price was this huge deficit. We were able to have strong growth because expansionary fiscal policy—the deficit—was combined with a stringent monetary policy which curbed inflation."

"But now we reach a state where if foreign dollars start to pull out of the United States in search of better growth prospects, we are going to face the consequences of that deficit building."

As the latest round of government statistics showed last week, the United States recovery has topped out and is now in a down cycle, indeed the gross national product only grew at 1.9 p.c. rate in the third quarter.

But while the American economy is clearly slowing, the rest of the world is still on the upward march, Prof. Klein explains. As a result, America's position as a "safe haven" for investment dollars is in jeopardy.

"Some time in the next year, world investors will realise that Wall Street has seen its peak and at the same time European countries will be in a strong 'phase,'" notes Prof. Klein. "These countries are coming into significant growth. Nobody is looking for a surge but a solid recovery will provide investment gains that just won't be achieved here in the United States."

Prof. Klein believes the current system of debt crisis management which involves industrial governments keeping their hands off while banks and the debtor nations themselves struggle to negotiate liveable arrangements will not work in the long run. In his view, the debtor nations must be able to count on a flow of funds in upcoming years in order to foster growth.

"There must be a final settlement, one that will enable the debtor nations to service their existing debt but still have new debt on which to grow," Prof. Klein says. "Banks don't want to make new loans to these countries and there has to be a way for the debtor nations to resume creditworthiness or they cannot grow."

Lauren Chambliss

Telecom issue
expected to top
2m applications

By ROLAND GRIBBIN

PREDICTIONS about applications from the public for British Telecom shares are now being revised upwards, above the "magic" two million mark with two days to go before the deadline.

A million applications had been received by the weekend for the 23 p.c. of the shares allocated to the public but there is confidence that the figure will double with the aid of a last-minute rush.

The huge response has delighted ministers anxious to encourage wider share ownership, but will pose a massive administrative problem and the Government is backed for protests about scaling down applications and the offer price.

The trend so far points to more applications for the share bonus perk rather than the telephone discount voucher, suggesting that unlike other State asset flotations, many are prepared to hold on to the shares.

Many applications are pitched at the minimum 200 level but thousands of forms are being returned because they have either been incorrectly completed. The most common error has been among people wanting the £18 discount vouchers failing to stick to the guide provided in the prospectus.

Processing banks say they are being asked to allow the mistakes to be corrected and a fresh application made. But people sending in wrongly-completed forms at the last minute stand the chance of seeing their applications rejected.

There is little doubt now that the issue will be heavily over-

subscribed and estimates about the opening premium range up to 20p and above on the part-paid 50p shares. Applicants have to put up 50p a share immediately—representing £100 for the minimum 200 shares—and pay the 80p balance in two 40p stages.

Bank managers and building societies report heavy withdrawals from investors to finance the down payment amid the confidence that more shares should have been allocated to the public.

Government advisers felt that the £1.5 billion worth of shares set aside for the public and Telecom's 241,000 employees, who have a 10 p.c. allocation, would be enough to meet demand.

But with the heavy promotional campaign paying off in a big way there is a mixture of delight and apprehension in Whitehall. There is concern about the prospect of protests from the public about the scaling down of applications and a feeling that the issue might have been sold too cheaply.

Institutions have been effectively guaranteed 47 p.c. of the three billion shares on offer. In some quarters it is felt the allocation has been too generous, but it is being pointed out that the 500 institutions buying shares have ensured the success of what is the world's biggest equity issue and do not qualify for perks.

There is sensitivity in Government quarters about fresh accusations that a State asset is being sold on the cheap. Advisers told Ministers that the offer price of 150p a share was testing the upper limits of the market and that anything higher would not have got institutional support.

LOMBARD STREET

A VERY DISTINCTIVE BANKER

I HAD last seen Ian Fraser in the ballroom of the Taj Mahal hotel in Bombay. Amid those Gurzonian splendours he was warning the Indians against the persuasions of bankers—hard-selling loan merchants—here today, headhunted tomorrow, headhunted to push the deal and clinch their commissions. That, from a banker, was distinctive, not to say persuasive.

But then, Mr Fraser is a distinctive banker. He is chairman of the lordly Lazard's and of the Accepting Houses Committee, the inner circle of merchant banks. He is—as he was telling the Indians—descended from the banking Medici by way of a dotted line after King Charles the Second.

He is also, like Nigel Lawson, an example to financial journalists who think that there must be less eccentric ways of earning their living. Siegmund Warburg, no respecter of establishments, respected Mr Fraser out of Reuters, and certain disrespect for the moment's established wisdom has marked his style ever since.

Nearly three years ago he was warning of "contemporary pressures operating on the banking system, such as the league table syndrome and the competition for self-advertisement"—banks striving to be bigger and to be seen putting more business on to the books, cost what it might and now has.

Looking out last week across a rainswept City, Mr Fraser drew the moral: "It's invariably a league table of volume, not of quality. You can only tell if a loan is a good one when it's repaid—keep telling my young men here."

"If you're making widgets you're interested in market share, because if you can dominate the market you can have an influence on prices and on profit. For a bank to increase its market share is not to increase its profitability."

What banks should be seeking to do is to make profit, not to make loans.

Banks have been seized by these periodic madnesses since the time of Mr Fraser's Florentine ancestors (who married their way out of trouble).

"It's the same old thing—overconfident lending, without sufficient spread of risk... It's the herd instinct—one banker goes somewhere and all the others follow, feeling that they're missing out if they don't."

The standard of world banking has lowered in the past ten years. It's a typical cyclical phenomenon, and we're not out of it yet."

The banks' condition now, Mr Fraser diagnoses, is chronic rather than critical. "They need to be

far more realistic about their prospects—including strengthening their capital bases and keeping their dividends down."

And making stiffer provisions? "Rich banks can afford to do it." But it has to be done, and the Latin American debts digested over time. "If we can keep it for another five or seven years, it will be over."

As one crazy subsidy, is the next one now upon us? Banks, brokers, businesses of every sort are now rushing into each others' arms, eager for shared bliss in the dawn of the City Revolution.

Lazard's, so far from joining in, has offered to arrange anti-dowries—endowments for Stock Exchange firms which prefer to stay virginal.

"We had a proposition," owns

Mr Fraser. "We walked round it, we finally decided against it. Then we offered our services to those stockbrokers who wanted 'neutral money'—that is, from institutional investors."

"We've talked to a couple of dozen, we've fitted up two or three with what they wanted. We're not going to offer ourselves as the investors."

Is he surprised to see so many firms moving the other way? "Yes, I am, actually... I wonder if the fear of being left out is a good reason for doing this."

The first phase of the new order will be one of great turmoil, Mr Fraser expects. "Many will fall by the wayside. The market will then become less competitive—possibly less so than it is today."

That, to his mind, is what has followed the Wall Street revolution of the 1970s. He points sharply to the New York investment banks' turn on handling the Telecom issue—between 3% and 5% p.c. without any underwriting risk. "That to me is not the sign of a highly competitive market."

The Wall Street revolution brought mergers among the investment banks. That may follow here. "There are five, maybe seven, leading investment banks in the States feeding a market 20 or 40 times bigger than ours. Here there are eight or nine of us scrabbling about to make a living. We could see a wave of merchant bank mergers towards the end of the eighties."

What, then, is the future for the City merchant bank? "I'm sure it's got a future, even if the function is quite different. It may be in a few years time 50 p.c. of the business will be familiar and 50 p.c. will be things we haven't even thought of today."

Ian Fraser pauses. "Perhaps serving Joe Public better could be one of them." He is, as ever, distinctive.



... the periodic madnesses of bankers is

CBI to press for
£2bn in tax cuts

THE Confederation of British Industry is expected to press for a £2 billion package of tax cuts to help sustain the recovery when its ruling council considers Budget representations on Wednesday.

The CBI, coupled with a "mini-finance" £1 billion programme of investment in roads, sewerage systems and other infrastructure projects, will help broaden the recovery base, the CBI believes.

The CBI's latest industrial trends survey today provides further confirmation that the recovery has flattened out. David Wigglesworth, chairman of the economic situation committee, says: "Expectations of higher output are less strong than in earlier months of the year, but electrical and instrument engineering and medium-sized firms have higher than average expectations."

Eighteen per cent. of the 1,584 companies canvassed said order books are above normal and 51 p.c. say they are at normal levels while 19 p.c. report more buoyant export orders and 51 p.c. say they are unchanged.

Midland sees rise in jobless

CONTRASTING views on the outlook for unemployment come from the Midland Bank and the City University Business School in their latest economic forecasts published today.

The winter issue of the Midland Bank Review predicts a steady rise in unemployment from the present 3.1 million to 3.5 million in 1985. The new job created by economic growth of 3 p.c. in 1985 and 2 p.c. in the two

A total of 23 p.c. are predicting an increase in output over the next four months, 57 p.c. expect no change and 14 p.c. are forecasting a fall while 36 p.c. are looking to raise prices and 38 p.c. say they will be unchanged.

Next year the CBI is forecasting growth of 3½ p.c.—marginally lower than the Treasury's 3½ p.c. projection—helped by

a post-miners' strike recovery followed by a slowdown in 1986 when growth is expected to be running at 1½ p.c. a year in the opening six months.

Inflation is predicted to hold steady at around 5 p.c. but the CBI offers little comfort on the jobless front, forecasting unchanged unemployment next year despite the creation of 400,000 jobs in the 18-month period between now and the first half of 1986. Manufacturers are expected to continue to shed labour at the rate of 1½ p.c. a year.

The CBI's in its Economic Review, takes a much more optimistic view, suggesting that unemployment may fall to just under three million by mid-1985 and to just over 2.5 million a year later. By 1986 the number of jobless could be down to 1.5 million, according to the CBI's projections.

Overseas markets; Share Race P22

Liffe agrees deal
on clearing fees

THE London International Financial Futures Exchange has agreed a deal which will take it into profit. It will now be able to compete for the international business it needs, first by promotion and marketing, and later by price-cutting.

The deal is with the International Commodities Clearing House, which handles the contracts made at Liffe and guarantees that they will be honoured. Until now, ICCCH has taken the bulk of what Liffe charges for clearing and transacting business—out of every 90p, as much as 70p goes to ICCCH. That was now come down to 25p, or less for larger volumes of business.

Liffe and ICCCH will also decide on a new fee for guaranteeing the contracts. It must, says Liffe, be commercially competitive. Last, Liffe and ICCCH will develop a new clearing system, to be owned by a joint company.

Britain urged
to join EMS

A CALL for Britain to become a full member of the European Monetary System is issued today by a group of 21 leading politicians, economists and City figures.

The group, chaired by David Howell M.P., former Conservative Secretary of State for Energy, says all the economic and financial arguments against British membership of the exchange rate mechanism are now weak. Oil prices appear stable, inflation performance and economic policy are as close to those of Germany—the EMS anchor country—as they are likely to be, and the present value of sterling is widely regarded as reasonable, it says.

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By Barbara Conway

COMPUTERS

Putting micros 'on line'

SEVERAL years into the micro-computer revolution a lot of the original glamour of the machines, particularly those bought for family rather than business use, has worn off. Manufacturers, ever aware of the dangers of letting the market cool down, have latched onto a development which has already raised the temperature by several degrees. This has been the year of the modem, and the signs are that sales of the little black boxes which link your micro into the telephone system will soar further next year.

A modem (it stands for Modulator/DEModulator of electronic signals) is now fairly familiar in many businesses. It will enable micros to send messages, reports and the like over the world and can also link the machines into giant "databases," the equivalent of electronic libraries which can call up information on a specified subject to the computer screen.

But the application of this kind of technology to home computers is fairly new and growing fast. Largest of the databases available in Britain is British Telecom's Prestel service, which has a special "Microcomputing" section for home users. Tens of thousands of "pages" of information on subjects ranging from general news, holiday availability, business and entertainment information are available.

The real charm for home users, however, lies in the "interactive" element of the

service. If you use a banking service on such a database, you can issue instructions via your computer keyboard. You can buy holiday brochures or buy advertised goods the same way and, if you have any comments to make, you can use a response frame to send them.

It is that last element which has probably caused the most excitement among home users. With the right software you can now indulge in long conversations by "mailbox" on Prestel with a wide variety of other users who may have tips and information to exchange or even (usually late at night when the telephone charges are at their lowest) carry out electronic debates.

The two main rivals for the hearts and chequebooks of the would-be participants in the home communications boom are probably Micronet, the largest single section of Prestel which aims to provide an all-round magazine and discussion forum for home computer owners and Comnet, the network set up by the Commodore group for owners of its machines, principally the mass-appeal Commodore 64.

Both offer facilities to buy and sell items direct from the keyboard. Prestel provides a "bulletin board" for debates and a wide variety of information about developments in the computer world.

There are also quite a few independent bulletin boards, many of them free as opposed to the annual subscriptions to

CompuNet and Micronet. Joining Micronet costs home users £32 a year, plus £20 for the rest of Prestel.

Comnet's first year subscription fee with its 689 modem costs an annual £50. On top of that will be the cost of sending the electronic messages (currently free for Micronet users) and, of course, the increased telephone bill.

Those interested in a straightforward information service might look at Knowledge Index, an American database which lets home users have access to several major computer libraries for a one-off charge of £25 plus an "online" charge equivalent to around £14 an hour. If a search is planned very carefully before picking up the receiver, online time can be cut drastically as the computer responses are rapid.

The average cost of a modern plus communications software is about £160. For CompuNet you need Commodore's own modem which will also let you connect to Prestel and similar systems which use the same "baud rates" (transmission speeds).

If you want to stick with the Prestel-type systems then, for the BSC computer, Acorn, do an excellent Prestel adaptor at £115.85 while Tandem provides a similar add-on for many other micros at the same price. If you want more flexibility look at the excellent, and simply-operated, multi-baud Nightingale modem from Pace (£285 plus V.A.T. including software).

Small traders spell salvation with a 'C' VAT fears cloud

WHILE the battle at the top end of the grocery league boils down to a complement to spirits, operators are also moving fast to combat the multiples' growth as a competitor.

The small men, knowing full well that they cannot compete on price with the big names, open late and trading on Sundays are radically reshaping their trading format and re-emerging as C-stores.

The convenience concept is not new to this country but it is, ever recently, spurred on by the ever-increasing threat of the supermarket chains, that it has taken off.

Convenience is now seen as toiletries, DIY products, fast foods and beer, wines and spirits, but as a complement to spirits.

There is not as yet a general accepted definition of a C-store but apart from staying on price with the big names, open late and trading on Sundays (never mind what the law says) it offers a wide range of goods covering everyday necessities and unexpected requirements.

That means going beyond the usual grocery lines and stocking newspapers and magazines, greeting cards and stationery, and more.

building outlook

COMPANIES supplying building materials today forecast a rise in construction work next year but fear it could be killed by new contracts being made liable to value added tax after the next Budget.

The national council of the Building Materials Producers is pressing the Government to give an assurance that V.A.T. will not be extended to fresh areas of the construction business.

Growth rate for the industry looks like being 4 p.c. this year

Turnover up by £165.3m to £852.8m (24%)
Pre-tax profit up by £4.8m to £17.1m (39.5%)
Earnings per share up 41.5% - Dividend up 28.6%

INTERIM RESULTS
(unaudited)

	28 weeks to 10/11/84 £'000	28 weeks to 12/11/83 £'000	52 weeks to 28/4/84 £'000
Turnover (excluding VAT)	852,772	687,500	1,387,023
Trading profit	18,882	13,904	31,066
Profit on ordinary activities before tax	17,074	12,238	28,306
Profit on ordinary activities after tax	13,924	9,445	24,046
Profit for the period	13,816	9,261	21,720
Dividend	2.25p	1.75p	4.75p
Earnings per share	5.8p	4.1p	10.375p



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Wisdom of Solomon based on guesswork

ANTHONY SOLOMON, the respected president of the New York Fed, may well be right to argue that reports of the death of the United States economic recovery are much exaggerated and that next year will see a bounce back from the very sluggish growth rates of the third and fourth quarters.

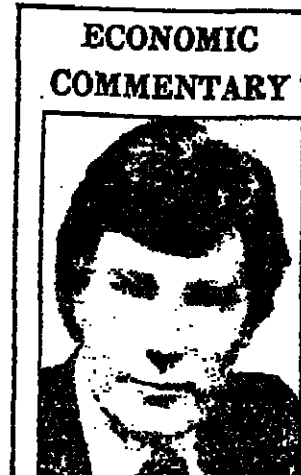
The truth is, however, that like the rest of us, Mr Solomon is only guessing and the possibility of the United States slipping into recession in 1985 can no longer be discounted. The extent of uncertainty over the future course of the budget deficit, the dollar, and the United States interest rates is more than sufficient to reduce any forecast to the status of mere hunch.

If events do turn sour in America, the implications for Europe are likely to be rather serious. American interest and exchange rates have undoubtedly constrained macro-economic policy options for the European countries (and Japan) and have arguably contributed to capital shortages which have reduced investment. But the coin has had another side to it. The vigour of the United States recovery and its appetite for imports have made a contribution to demand which has provided some compensation for the very tight fiscal policies being pursued by most European governments. If the locomotive on the other side of the Atlantic runs out of puff, the weak European recovery is likely to falter.

The key to how Europe sweaters a slowdown in American economic activity lies in Bonn. It is West German macro-economic performance and policy which drives the EEC and sets the tone for the whole area.

As it happens, the Germans are remarkably well placed to take up some of the running from the Americans. Since 1982, the name of "consolidation" has been the government of Chancellor Kohl has been pursuing a policy of such fiscal stringency that Mrs Thatcher seems like a spendthrift by comparison.

On almost any criterion West German fiscal policy is spectacularly restrictive. Between 1981 and 1983 the federal budget deficit fell from almost 4 p.c. of gross domestic production to 1.9 p.c., is likely to be around 1.5 p.c. this year



By Matthew Symonds

and down to 0.5 p.c. next year. To put that into some kind of perspective, after five-and-a-half years of Thatcherism, growing North Sea oil revenues, and large-scale sales of public sector assets, even on the Government's own projections Britain's PSBR will be about 2.5 p.c. of GDP in 1985.

As the OECD points out: "On a carefully-adjusted basis, the (West German) public sector may have moved into a structural surplus position of some size." The last time the German unadjusted deficit fell to such a low level was in 1973, just before the first oil shock.

If a further indication of the relative tightness of West German fiscal policy is required, it is of some interest that the ratio of the budget deficit to gross private savings — the "crowding out" factor — will have fallen from 17 p.c. in 1982 to a highly-revealing 1.7 p.c. next year. Comparable 1983 figures for France, Britain and the United States are respectively 18.9 p.c., 14.6 p.c. and 21.5 p.c. Although higher revenues resulting from a stronger than anticipated economic upturn have played a part in this turnaround, it has been the consistent underspending of public expenditure which has made the most significant impact. In 1983, Government spending rose in nominal terms by only 2.5 p.c. — the smallest expansion in the post-war period. The main vic-

tim has been public investment which has fallen by 25 p.c. in real terms during the last three years.

Unit labour costs have been falling, inflation is little more than 2 p.c. and there are nearly 50 unemployed for every vacancy. Given that capacity-utilisation has only staged a modest recovery from the cyclical trough of the fourth quarter of 1982, it does not seem that the German economy is exactly in grave danger of approaching any supply-side constraints in the foreseeable future.

On the other hand, the United States fails to relate next year and the dollar falls, the arguments in favour of a boost to domestic demand become overwhelming.

The danger is that the Germans have, in James Tobin's phrase, "over-learned" the lessons of the 1970s. The last time West Germany attempted to fire up its locomotive, everything went wrong. Within six months of the Germans having agreed to an extra fiscal stimulus of 1 p.c. at the 1978 Bonn summit, the world was hit by the second oil shock and a renewed dose of stagflation.

Ironically, the Germans find themselves chairing next year's summit. But despite the pressure on the host nation to do something big and clean it is unlikely that the exhortations from Washington for some fiscal easing will make much impression. Nor can Chancellor Kohl be expected to do more than listen politely to similar appeals from President Mitterrand, who is still paying the price for having tried reflation in one country three years ago.

The best hope is that the Germans themselves will realise that "consolidation" can be taken too far. Chancellor Kohl is planning to introduce about DM20 billion worth of tax cuts in two equal stages between 1986 and 1988. It would do no harm to bring those forward by a year. He could also do worse than to heed the advice contained in the latest Bundesbank monthly report to boost investment spending from its currently-depressed levels. The austerity of the last few years has given West Germany enviable room for manoeuvre — there is no merit in the economic equivalent of wearing a hair shirt.

Plenty still to go for in BAT

UP, UP... but not yet away. BAT Industries' shares have doubled in price already this year, but they could do the same again in the coming 12 months.

BAT is the share fund managers have not yet come to terms with. Between 1980 and 1982, BAT's earnings per share rose 100 p.c. By the end of next year they will have doubled again, give or take a few percentage points.

The shares have rumbled up too much to the profit of BAT management's inability to let International to earn its keep.

But the price is a good one and demonstrates that BAT does know when to cash in its chips if a business fails to develop as expected. No management can hope to win 'em all — knowing what to do when it has backed a loser is the real test.

Furthermore, as the debate about "quality" continues, it will be remembered that a quarter of BAT's assets are now tied up in Eagle Star Hold-

ings — which might be unexciting but is nevertheless of the highest quality.

At the interim stage this year, 60 p.c. of BAT's operating profit still stemmed from tobacco. But the year-end figures will show well over 40 p.c. coming from non-tobacco interests, the largest of which is retailing.

BAT is especially strong in United States retailing where its interests take in Saks, Marshall Field and Gimbels. In the United Kingdom it has Argos, the catalogue showroom business. No lack of "quality" here.

QUESTOR
David Brewerton

In total, BAT profits look capable of rising to £1.25 billion before tax in the current year from £973 million in 1983. For the following year, market estimates are that profits could rise to £1.4 billion for the group as it is now constituted.

But the point is that the much maligned tobacco business is generating cash at such a phenomenal rate that less than a year after buying Eagle Star for £968 million the group is once again in a position to make a major takeover.

Little of that, however, is reflected in the current share price of 278p where the prospective price-earnings ratio is six and the yield 5.2 p.c.

Yarrow worth following

AMERICAN concern about the risks of re-nationalisation of British Telecom shares should there be a change of Government has apparently set ministers' minds to work on the

long running row over ship-building assets.

It is now seven years since nationalisation, and the row over the level of compensation has now reached the European Court of Human Rights. The two sides are making their submissions, and eventually the sorry saga will be brought to an end.

But it is being pointed out to the Government that it would help the British Telecom position if it was seen to be less hard faced and fairer over the compensation paid for the shipyard.

The first £6 million has been kept liquid and, with interest, has now grown to about £9 million, or 25p share. If Yarrow were to get all that it is asking for — and considering the profitability of the shipyard since it was nationalised that is not too much — it would amount to 500p share.

The shares are trading at 333p, which reflects the doubts of the market as to whether, through the European Court, it is likely to be another year before anything is decided.

But Yarrow is profitable in its own right, with underlying profits running between £2 million and £3 million a year. Taking the middle course and applying a full tax charge leaves the shares trading at nine times earnings — not demanding for an engineering consultancy.

That is obviously the conclusion which Weir Group reached when it agreed to spend £3 million on a 25 p.c. stake in Yarrow last August, money that Weir could have put to use in its own business.

The market expected a full bid, but so far it hasn't turned up. Meanwhile, Yarrow is biding its time on the question of re-nationalisation, terms are announced. One to follow.

Difficult days for Barratt

DESPITE the debilitating influence of Barratt Development's shares bottom line, the index of housebuilders' shares has held up over the past year.

With mortgage rates coming down and funds still plentiful, the sector should continue to enjoy good trading, although those companies with interests in mining areas are reporting a loss of business because of the pit closure.

Barratt, hard hit last year by the timber frame controversy, is getting another dose of trouble from its exposure to the strike-hit areas in the North of England and Scotland.

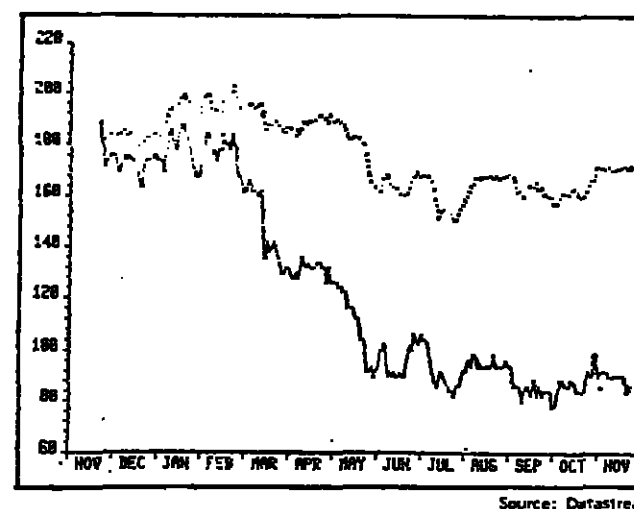
The scale of Barratt's problem can be measured by legal completions on homes sold. In 1982-83 Barratt sold 16,500

homes. In the last financial year to June 1984, it had expected to sell 18,000, but in fact sold only 13,700. In the current year, outside estimates are that completions will fall to 12,000.

Chairman Sir Lawrence Barratt stated the obvious last week when he said first-half results would be "disappointing," and it seems likely that profits will fall to half the 1983-84 level.

The half year will have to carry the cost of rationalisation moves and mergers of subsidiaries which Barratt has instituted to meet the reduced level of sales.

At their present level of 84p, the shares may have touched bottom, since the asset value of 135p provides some support so long as the housing market as a whole



Source: Datastream

stays firm. But it is by no means certain that first-half figures have been digested and the hoped-for second half upturn are unlikely even to begin to

THIS WEEK IN CITY MARKETS

Americans help cure Beecham's ailments

THE cure for the summer cold, in stock market terms, has been found — across the Atlantic. The mixture of American demand and takeover speculation injected into an ailing share price soon begins to have the required effect. This has been well demonstrated this year by Beecham Group.

Its shares caught a cold in July falling to a year's "low" of 285p, after having been 340p a month earlier ahead of the preliminary figures for 1983-84. Three figures turned out to be very disappointing showing only minimal growth in profits which rose from £237 million to £268 million pre-tax and the first

decline in earnings since 1979. This, together with the market's view that profits for 1984-85 could also be pedestrian, precipitated the decline in the shares.

Another factor affecting sentiment then was that unlike its nearest rival, Glaxo — it did not have the benefit of a wonder drug like Zantac to capture the market's enthusiasm.

By August, however, talk of an American bidder coupled with U.S. buying of the share had started to effect a cure. This buying, and approval by the American authorities for the marketing of Beecham's new antibiotic drug Augmentin and the subsequent reports of

good initial sales in October, saw the share recover to 375p by early November — a rise of over 30 p.c. since the June "low".

Overall, first half pre-tax profits are expected to be in the region of £150 million, as against £128.5 million and shareholders could receive their own tonic in the form of a higher interim dividend. For the full year, market analysts are predicting profits of some £310 million.

Two other FINANCIAL TIMES 30-share constituents, Allied-Lyons and Courtaulds — also report their interim results tomorrow.

Allied-Lyons, the brewer and food manufacturer, had an excellent 1983-84 with pre-tax profits up from £159.6 million to £194.9 million. The slowdown in consumer spending and the effects of the miners' strike may have held back profits in the opening half but market analysts are still forecasting around £100 million (£90.5 million) pre-tax.

The market will be looking closely at the results from Courtaulds for although the group produced almost doubled full-year profits of £117.8 million (£68.5 million), it may now have reached the top of its cycle. Consequently, some City analysts have trimmed their interim forecast to £52 million (£47.7 million) pre-tax and the full-year outturn to £128 million.

Interims — Freshbake Foods Group, Henriques Arthur, Highgate and Job Group.

Malcolm Locke

DIVIDENDS DIARY

TODAY: Finals — Fenner J. H. Radio City (Sound of Mersey-side).

Interims — Chamberlains Phipps, Dunhill Holdings, Erskine House, Property Partnerships, Sarasota Technology, Sterling Guaranty Trust, Volex Group.

TUESDAY: Finals — Carr John, I.C.L. Scottish and Mercantile Investment.

Interims — Allied — Lyons, Beecham Group, Century Oil Group, Channel Tunnel Investment, C.M.I. Microsystems, Court-aids, De Beers Consolidated Mines, Investment Co., Parland Textiles, Rothmans International, TR Property Investment Trust.

WEDNESDAY: Finals — Cronite Group, M.E.P.C.

Interims — B.P.B. Industries, Brickhouse Dudley, Cable and Wireless, Carless Capel and

Leonard, Evans of Leeds, Henderson Administration, M. & G. Second Dual Trust, Monte Investment Trust, Mountview Estates, Steinberg Group.

THURSDAY: Finals — Northwick Thomas and Sons, Morland and Co., Royal Bank of Scotland Group, United Wire Group.

Interims — Anglo American Corp. of South Africa, Bassett Foods, Celestion Industries, Dawson International, Delmar Group, Habitat Mothercare, Hargreaves Group, Humphries Group, Redland, Scape Group, RIG Group, Triefus.

FRIDAY: Finals — Tyne Tees Television.

Interims — Freshbake Foods Group, Henriques Arthur, Highgate and Job Group.

French Kier

INTERIM RESULTS

J. C. S. Mott, F.Eng., F.I.C.E., F.I.Struct.E. Chairman reports on the six months to 30th June 1984

*Group profit up 12% to £6.33M (1983 £5.65M)

*Group turnover up 10% to £130M (1983 £118M)

*Interim dividend up 7% to 1.55p (1983 1.45p) (payable 31st December 1984)

*Earnings per share up 12% to 7.2p (1983 6.4p)

*Reasonable result anticipated for full year

RESULTS

(unaudited)	6 months to	6 months to	Year to
	30.6.84	30.6.83	31.12.83
Turnover	£130M	£118M	£285M
Profit before tax	£6.33M	£5.65M	£14.33M
Dividend per share	1.55p	1.45p	5.80p
Earnings per share	7.2p	6.4p	17.3p

(The abridged profit and loss accounts for the year to 31st December 1984 is an audited document (over published accounts which have been filed with the Registrar of Companies and which contain an unqualified audit report.)

French Kier Holdings Public Limited Company
50 Epping New Road
Buckhurst Hill Essex IG9 5TH

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Lombard RAC Rally

VATANEN LEADS BUT BRITONS WELL PLACED

By COLIN DRYDEN

DESPITE a disastrous start by Tony Pond, British drivers did well in the opening stages of the Lombard RAC Rally yesterday, with three of them in the first ten.

A favourite to win the Group A category for the least modified cars, although not being a great lover of the even which has to be tackled without previous practice, Pond crashed on the first stage.

Cyclo-Cross

YOUNG WINS AND STAKES GB CLAIM

By PHIL LIGGETT

CHRIS YOUNG, the British champion, ended a traumatic week for himself and the British Cyclo-Cross Association when he won the 14-mile Nottinghamshire County Council Cyclo-Cross by almost a minute at Holme Pierrepont yesterday.

Young, suspended from the national squad after a disagreement with John Morris, the national team manager, rode with great conviction.

The Yorkshireman expects to be reinstated to the squad when the BCCA hold an emergency meeting next Saturday, when the resignation of Mr Morris—also expected to be confirmed.

Young, who had lost his claim to a Great Britain place in next Sunday's Harrogate National Cup in Birmingham when he left the national team, was back to back with a broken chain.

Steve Barnes, the National Trophy holder, made the best start along a road, but by the woodland he was back to 30th after stopping with a broken chain.

Robert Dane and David Baker, having been left by Young on the third lap, each survived their difficult moments of a crash and a puncture to finish second and third respectively.

Young (Parsons-Gazelle) 1st 5m 42.1s, Dane (Horse) 2nd 5m 43.1s, Baker (Parsons) 3rd 5m 44.1s, Barnes (Horse) 4th 5m 45.1s, Morris (Horse) 5th 5m 46.1s, Morris (Horse) 6th 5m 47.1s, Morris (Horse) 7th 5m 48.1s, Morris (Horse) 8th 5m 49.1s, Morris (Horse) 9th 5m 50.1s, Morris (Horse) 10th 5m 51.1s.

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Seoul must heed tradition

THE 1988 Olympic Games in Seoul must follow tradition and not hold some of the major track and field events in the morning.

The South Koreans had hoped to maximise revenue from United States television rights because Eastern standard time is 14 hours behind Seoul.

The Seoul Olympic Organising Committee told the International Amateur Athletic Federation meeting in Canberra at the weekend it proposed to bring forward about a third of the major athletic events, including the "glamour" races.

Life bans
Dr Primo Nebiolo, the IAAF President, said after refusing to apply his world lead decision to Juan Antonio Samaranch, President of the

International Olympic Committee. The IOC have to approve the athletes timetable, which is arranged by the organising committee and the IAAF.

The South Koreans also contend that the best time for competition is between 11 a.m. and 1 p.m. local time, and some events, such as the women's marathon and 20km walk, may still take place in the morning.

The IAAF imposed life bans on six athletes accused of infringing doping regulations, including Tatjana Kazankina, of the Soviet Union.

Head of the world record was approved because it was set nine days before she refused to take a drug test in Paris when the Russian team leader would not let her take it.

The five others banned are Anna Veronica, Cleanthia Ieriotis, and Dimitri Delafotis, all of Greece, and a Russian, Valina, of Finland.

Renaldo Nehemiah and Willy Gault, former United States Olympic athletes, were refused reinstatement as amateurs because they became professionals in American Football.

Marathon Cup races
In other decisions, the first World Junior Championships will be held in Athens, Jan. 18 & 19, confirmed for the first World Indoor Games in Paris, April 12 and 14 for women's and men's World Marathon Cup races in Hiroshima.

Meanwhile in London yesterday the annual meeting of the British Amateur Athletic Board approved Amateur Athletic Association proposals towards creating a single organisation to run the sport in Britain. The AAA's voting strength on the BAA was increased from 60 to 90.

Ewan Murray replaced Bill Jones as chairman, and Murray replaced Warren Ransom as treasurer.

Swimming

ZARA LONG RECORDS TREBLE

By PAT BESFORD

SARAH HARCASTLE, the Olympic double medalist, and Zara Long and Kathy Read, her Los Angeles team-mates, were all winners at the Essex County Junior Inter-County team final at Nuneaton but could not prevent Yorkshire retaining their title on Saturday.

Miss Long, 14, from Kent, took the 200 metres medley event, and also the 100 and 200 metres breaststroke.

Double win
Miss Read, 15, of Norfolk, won the backstroke 100 and 200 metres double in the oldest 14-15 year age-group ahead of Miss Harcastle, 15, better known as a 400 and 800 metres freestyle who tackled the stroke for Essex or want of a better representative.

But the Shoburness school-girl showed a neat turn of speed by coming first in the 100 metres freestyle in 58.75 secs, only a second outside the British junior record.

Paul Edwards (Norfolk) was a multi-winner in the boys section.

Results: 100m: 1. P. Edwards (Norfolk) 1:15.3, 2. J. Smith (Essex) 1:16.5, 3. M. Jones (Kent) 1:17.8, 4. D. Brown (Essex) 1:19.1, 5. R. White (Kent) 1:20.4, 6. S. Green (Essex) 1:21.7, 7. T. Black (Kent) 1:23.0, 8. L. Grey (Essex) 1:24.3, 9. H. Gold (Kent) 1:25.6, 10. K. Silver (Essex) 1:26.9.

200m: 1. P. Edwards (Norfolk) 2:35.2, 2. J. Smith (Essex) 2:36.5, 3. M. Jones (Kent) 2:37.8, 4. D. Brown (Essex) 2:39.1, 5. R. White (Kent) 2:40.4, 6. S. Green (Essex) 2:41.7, 7. T. Black (Kent) 2:43.0, 8. L. Grey (Essex) 2:44.3, 9. H. Gold (Kent) 2:45.6, 10. K. Silver (Essex) 2:46.9.

400m: 1. P. Edwards (Norfolk) 5:12.5, 2. J. Smith (Essex) 5:13.8, 3. M. Jones (Kent) 5:15.1, 4. D. Brown (Essex) 5:16.4, 5. R. White (Kent) 5:17.7, 6. S. Green (Essex) 5:19.0, 7. T. Black (Kent) 5:20.3, 8. L. Grey (Essex) 5:21.6, 9. H. Gold (Kent) 5:22.9, 10. K. Silver (Essex) 5:24.2.

800m: 1. P. Edwards (Norfolk) 10:25.2, 2. J. Smith (Essex) 10:26.5, 3. M. Jones (Kent) 10:27.8, 4. D. Brown (Essex) 10:29.1, 5. R. White (Kent) 10:30.4, 6. S. Green (Essex) 10:31.7, 7. T. Black (Kent) 10:33.0, 8. L. Grey (Essex) 10:34.3, 9. H. Gold (Kent) 10:35.6, 10. K. Silver (Essex) 10:36.9.

1600m: 1. P. Edwards (Norfolk) 20:45.2, 2. J. Smith (Essex) 20:46.5, 3. M. Jones (Kent) 20:47.8, 4. D. Brown (Essex) 20:49.1, 5. R. White (Kent) 20:50.4, 6. S. Green (Essex) 20:51.7, 7. T. Black (Kent) 20:53.0, 8. L. Grey (Essex) 20:54.3, 9. H. Gold (Kent) 20:55.6, 10. K. Silver (Essex) 20:56.9.

3200m: 1. P. Edwards (Norfolk) 41:15.2, 2. J. Smith (Essex) 41:16.5, 3. M. Jones (Kent) 41:17.8, 4. D. Brown (Essex) 41:19.1, 5. R. White (Kent) 41:20.4, 6. S. Green (Essex) 41:21.7, 7. T. Black (Kent) 41:23.0, 8. L. Grey (Essex) 41:24.3, 9. H. Gold (Kent) 41:25.6, 10. K. Silver (Essex) 41:26.9.

6400m: 1. P. Edwards (Norfolk) 82:35.2, 2. J. Smith (Essex) 82:36.5, 3. M. Jones (Kent) 82:37.8, 4. D. Brown (Essex) 82:39.1, 5. R. White (Kent) 82:40.4, 6. S. Green (Essex) 82:41.7, 7. T. Black (Kent) 82:43.0, 8. L. Grey (Essex) 82:44.3, 9. H. Gold (Kent) 82:45.6, 10. K. Silver (Essex) 82:46.9.

12800m: 1. P. Edwards (Norfolk) 164:55.2, 2. J. Smith (Essex) 164:56.5, 3. M. Jones (Kent) 164:57.8, 4. D. Brown (Essex) 164:59.1, 5. R. White (Kent) 165:00.4, 6. S. Green (Essex) 165:01.7, 7. T. Black (Kent) 165:03.0, 8. L. Grey (Essex) 165:04.3, 9. H. Gold (Kent) 165:05.6, 10. K. Silver (Essex) 165:06.9.

25600m: 1. P. Edwards (Norfolk) 329:15.2, 2. J. Smith (Essex) 329:16.5, 3. M. Jones (Kent) 329:17.8, 4. D. Brown (Essex) 329:19.1, 5. R. White (Kent) 329:20.4, 6. S. Green (Essex) 329:21.7, 7. T. Black (Kent) 329:23.0, 8. L. Grey (Essex) 329:24.3, 9. H. Gold (Kent) 329:25.6, 10. K. Silver (Essex) 329:26.9.

51200m: 1. P. Edwards (Norfolk) 658:35.2, 2. J. Smith (Essex) 658:36.5, 3. M. Jones (Kent) 658:37.8, 4. D. Brown (Essex) 658:39.1, 5. R. White (Kent) 658:40.4, 6. S. Green (Essex) 658:41.7, 7. T. Black (Kent) 658:43.0, 8. L. Grey (Essex) 658:44.3, 9. H. Gold (Kent) 658:45.6, 10. K. Silver (Essex) 658:46.9.

102400m: 1. P. Edwards (Norfolk) 1317:55.2, 2. J. Smith (Essex) 1317:56.5, 3. M. Jones (Kent) 1317:57.8, 4. D. Brown (Essex) 1317:59.1, 5. R. White (Kent) 1318:00.4, 6. S. Green (Essex) 1318:01.7, 7. T. Black (Kent) 1318:03.0, 8. L. Grey (Essex) 1318:04.3, 9. H. Gold (Kent) 1318:05.6, 10. K. Silver (Essex) 1318:06.9.

204800m: 1. P. Edwards (Norfolk) 2635:15.2, 2. J. Smith (Essex) 2635:16.5, 3. M. Jones (Kent) 2635:17.8, 4. D. Brown (Essex) 2635:19.1, 5. R. White (Kent) 2635:20.4, 6. S. Green (Essex) 2635:21.7, 7. T. Black (Kent) 2635:23.0, 8. L. Grey (Essex) 2635:24.3, 9. H. Gold (Kent) 2635:25.6, 10. K. Silver (Essex) 2635:26.9.

409600m: 1. P. Edwards (Norfolk) 5270:35.2, 2. J. Smith (Essex) 5270:36.5, 3. M. Jones (Kent) 5270:37.8, 4. D. Brown (Essex) 5270:39.1, 5. R. White (Kent) 5270:40.4, 6. S. Green (Essex) 5270:41.7, 7. T. Black (Kent) 5270:43.0, 8. L. Grey (Essex) 5270:44.3, 9. H. Gold (Kent) 5270:45.6, 10. K. Silver (Essex) 5270:46.9.

819200m: 1. P. Edwards (Norfolk) 10540:55.2, 2. J. Smith (Essex) 10540:56.5, 3. M. Jones (Kent) 10540:57.8, 4. D. Brown (Essex) 10540:59.1, 5. R. White (Kent) 10541:00.4, 6. S. Green (Essex) 10541:01.7, 7. T. Black (Kent) 10541:03.0, 8. L. Grey (Essex) 10541:04.3, 9. H. Gold (Kent) 10541:05.6, 10. K. Silver (Essex) 10541:06.9.

1638400m: 1. P. Edwards (Norfolk) 21080:15.2, 2. J. Smith (Essex) 21080:16.5, 3. M. Jones (Kent) 21080:17.8, 4. D. Brown (Essex) 21080:19.1, 5. R. White (Kent) 21080:20.4, 6. S. Green (Essex) 21080:21.7, 7. T. Black (Kent) 21080:23.0, 8. L. Grey (Essex) 21080:24.3, 9. H. Gold (Kent) 21080:25.6, 10. K. Silver (Essex) 21080:26.9.

3276800m: 1. P. Edwards (Norfolk) 42160:35.2, 2. J. Smith (Essex) 42160:36.5, 3. M. Jones (Kent) 42160:37.8, 4. D. Brown (Essex) 42160:39.1, 5. R. White (Kent) 42160:40.4, 6. S. Green (Essex) 42160:41.7, 7. T. Black (Kent) 42160:43.0, 8. L. Grey (Essex) 42160:44.3, 9. H. Gold (Kent) 42160:45.6, 10. K. Silver (Essex) 42160:46.9.

6553600m: 1. P. Edwards (Norfolk) 84320:55.2, 2. J. Smith (Essex) 84320:56.5, 3. M. Jones (Kent) 84320:57.8, 4. D. Brown (Essex) 84320:59.1, 5. R. White (Kent) 84321:00.4, 6. S. Green (Essex) 84321:01.7, 7. T. Black (Kent) 84321:03.0, 8. L. Grey (Essex) 84321:04.3, 9. H. Gold (Kent) 84321:05.6, 10. K. Silver (Essex) 84321:06.9.

13107200m: 1. P. Edwards (Norfolk) 168640:15.2, 2. J. Smith (Essex) 168640:16.5, 3. M. Jones (Kent) 168640:17.8, 4. D. Brown (Essex) 168640:19.1, 5. R. White (Kent) 168640:20.4, 6. S. Green (Essex) 168640:21.7, 7. T. Black (Kent) 168640:23.0, 8. L. Grey (Essex) 168640:24.3, 9. H. Gold (Kent) 168640:25.6, 10. K. Silver (Essex) 168640:26.9.

26214400m: 1. P. Edwards (Norfolk) 337280:35.2, 2. J. Smith (Essex) 337280:36.5, 3. M. Jones (Kent) 337280:37.8, 4. D. Brown (Essex) 337280:39.1, 5. R. White (Kent) 337280:40.4, 6. S. Green (Essex) 337280:41.7, 7. T. Black (Kent) 337280:43.0, 8. L. Grey (Essex) 337280

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TELEVISION - MONDAY

GUIDE BY PETER KNIGHT

BBC-1

6.30 a.m. Breakfast Time, with Frank Bough and Nick Ross. 9.15 a.m. News. 10.10 a.m. The Big Breakfast. 10.30 a.m. The Big Breakfast. 11.30 a.m. The Big Breakfast. 12.30 a.m. The Big Breakfast. 1.30 a.m. The Big Breakfast. 2.30 a.m. The Big Breakfast. 3.30 a.m. The Big Breakfast. 4.30 a.m. The Big Breakfast. 5.30 a.m. The Big Breakfast.

6.00 NEWS.

6.30 REGIONAL MAGAZINES.

BBC-2

9.15 a.m. Daytime on Two, a run of short educational programmes for children and adults, mostly repeats. 2.30 a.m. The Big Breakfast. 3.30 a.m. The Big Breakfast. 4.30 a.m. The Big Breakfast. 5.30 a.m. The Big Breakfast.

6.00 JUPITER'S DARLING (1965). Can you imagine a youngling Howard Keel as Hannibal, leading his army, elephants and all, on ancient Rome but eventually postponing the battle for a little dalliance with swimming star Esther Williams as a beautiful Roman temptress? If you can, then you may well enjoy this lavish musical historical spoof, complete with George Sanders and some splendid dance routines from Gower Champion.

7.35 KEN HORN'S CHINESE COOKERY - Meat. This week he prepares chili pork, parrrrrs, hot and sour kidneys and steamed meatballs, as well as visiting a soy sauce factory.

8.00 TO THE MANOR BORN - Repeat.

8.55 HARRY WITH MCCARTNEY - Paul McCartney talks about his career.

7.40 GET SET GO! - With Michael Barrymore.

8.10 PANORAMA - Scandal Down Under. As Australia prepares to go to the polls this week, Tom Maguire investigates the allegations of crime and corruption that have been made against lawyers, businessmen and trades unionists in the country.

9.00 NEWS, WEATHER.

9.25 "FROM HELL TO VICTORY" (1979). Fairly routine war-time adventure film involving six friends of various nationalities who rendezvous annually in their favourite club in Paris. But the year is 1939 and the coming war is about to change all their lives. Star-studded cast including George Peppard, George Hamilton, Sam Wanamaker, Capucine and Horst Buchholz.

11.05 CHAMPIONSHIP SNOOKER - The United Kingdom Championship highlights of today's second round matches at the Guild Hall, Preston. 12.10 News Headlines, Weather.

8.30 LAME DUCKS - Drake, Angie and her friends are invited to a "one-on-one" party by Mrs. Kelly but Angie is more than a little bit of a party animal.

9.00 LAUGHING - I NEARLY PAID MY LICENCE FEE!

9.25 HORIZON - Global Village. In the Indian village of Manikonda, Bombay film, educational programme and British television comedies are now part of rural life thanks to the television. The programme Mrs. Gandhi always believed that new communications technology had a vital role to play in the development of the country where three out of four people are illiterate. But it helps raise the living standards of the poor. The programme visits Manikonda to investigate.

10.15 FRANK DELANEY - Tonight he explores the gulf between men and women writers, with Fay Weldon, Martin Amis, Michele Roberts and Malcolm Bradbury.

10.50 NEWSNIGHT.

11.35 TOP GEAR RALLY REPORT - The second day of the Lombard RAC Rally.

11.45-12.15 a.m. BUONGIORNO ITALIA!

7.30 CORONATION STREET. (Oracle subtitles.)

8.00 WORLD IN ACTION SPECIAL - Kidnapped. An hour-long special edition following the efforts of a father to get back his son, who has been kidnapped by his mother and taken abroad. There is some hope of a change in the law which will make parental kidnapping a criminal offence, but many still believe it will be little help to the estimated 3,000 British parents whose children are already missing abroad.

9.00 QUINCY - Give Me Your Weak. The crusading medic takes on the large pharmaceutical companies this week when he tries to force them to continue to offer unprofitable products.

10.00 NEWS AT TEN, followed by Thames News Headlines.

10.30 THE LATE NANCY IRVING - A millionaire, who suffers from a rare blood disease and needs a constant supply of fresh blood, kidneys and a lady golfer to help him keep his supply going. Christina Raines is the unfortunate lady in question. With Marius Goring and Simon Williams.

11.55 THE BOUNDER - Raffles. Repeat.

12.25 NIGHT THOUGHTS, with Katharine Whitehorn.

only occasionally funny and certainly never lived up to early expectations. Tonight Truscott marshals his army in an operation designed to weed out decadent scum.

9.00 THE ALGERIAN WAR - To the Barricades. Tonight's programme focuses on the increasing disillusionment with de Gaulle's policies among European settlers and French army officers in Algeria, which eventually led to rebellion and rioting and the formation of the OAS in 1961.

10.00 ST. ELSEWHERE - Attack. Masked rapist terrorises the female staff of St. Eligius and the lady golfer authorities are soon under pressure to tighten up security.

10.55-11.55 UNSUITABLE FOR CHILDREN - A group of men recall their childhoods, all of which were marked by trauma, anxiety and illness which affected their later lives.

** Outstanding. * Recommended.

ITV REGIONS

TVS

6.25 Good Morning. 9.25 TVS Outlook. 9.30 For Schools. 12.00 Tickle on the Tum. 12.10 Let's Pretend. 1.30 Circles of Power - 4. West Germany.

1.30 News: TVS News. 1.32 The Amsterdam Affair. 1967 film starring Wolfgang Kieling as a Dutch policeman Van der Valk.

3.15 Afternoon Club. 3.21 Take the High Road. 4.00 Tickle on the Tum. 4.15 Wil Cwac Cwac. 4.20 He-man.

4.25 Murphy's Mob. 4.30 News and Daughter. 4.35 News. 4.40 Coast to Coast. 4.45 Airmail. 4.50 Automania. 4.55 Coronation Street. 5.00 Quincey. 5.00 News: TVS News. 5.10 "Oklahoma Grudge" (offbeat 1973 melodrama set in the mid-1940s). George C. Scott, John Mills, Jack Palance.

12.25 Company.

11.30 The Streets of San Francisco, rpt. 12.30 One Hundred Years On.

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Central

6.25-9.25 Good Morning. 9.30 For Schools. 12.00 Tickle on the Tum. 12.10 Let's Pretend. 1.30 Circles of Power - 4. West Germany.

1.30 News: Central News. 1.32 "Ill Met by Moonlight" (1956 b/w based-on-fact WW2 drama). Dirk Bogarde.

3.25 News. 3.30 The Young Doctors. 4.00 Tickle on the Tum. 4.15 Wil Cwac Cwac. 4.20 He-man. 4.25 Murphy's Mob. 4.30 News and Daughter. 4.35 News. 4.40 Coast to Coast. 4.45 Airmail. 4.50 Automania. 4.55 Coronation Street. 5.00 Quincey. 5.00 News: Central News. 5.10 "Oklahoma Grudge" (offbeat 1973 melodrama set in the mid-1940s). George C. Scott, John Mills, Jack Palance.

12.25 Company.

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Yorkshire

6.25 Good Morning. 9.25 Weather. 9.30 For Schools. 12.00 Tickle on the Tum. 12.10 Let's Pretend. 1.30 Circles of Power - 4. West Germany.

1.30 News: Yorkshire News. 1.32 "Ill Met by Moonlight" (1956 b/w based-on-fact WW2 drama). Dirk Bogarde.

3.25 News. 3.30 A Country Practice. 4.00 Tickle on the Tum. 4.15 Wil Cwac Cwac. 4.20 He-man. 4.25 Murphy's Mob. 4.30 News and Daughter. 4.35 News. 4.40 Coast to Coast. 4.45 Airmail. 4.50 Automania. 4.55 Coronation Street. 5.00 Quincey. 5.00 News: Yorkshire News. 5.10 "Oklahoma Grudge" (offbeat 1973 melodrama set in the mid-1940s). George C. Scott, John Mills, Jack Palance.

12.25 Company.

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RADIO

FOUR

5.55 on 1w Shipping. 6.00 News Briefing. 6.10 Farming Week. 6.25 Prayer for the Day. 6.30 Today. 8.25 The Week on 4. 8.45 Angus McDermid. 9.00 News. 9.05 Start the Week with Richard Baker. 10.00 Money Box, rpt. 10.30 Morning Star. 10.45 Service. 11.00 Down Your Way, rpt. 11.45 Poetry Please! 12.00 You and Yours. 12.27 Anything Legal. 12.55 Weather. 1.00 The World at One. 1.40 The Archers. 1.50 on 1w Shipping. 2.00 Woman's Hour. 3.00 Customs of the Country, rpt. of Philip Latham's play. 4.30 A Charming Life: Vicki Hughes, 1, West Indies to the Caribbean. 4.40 Start Time: Pierre et Jean (1st). 5.00 PM (1st) on 1w Shipping. 5.55 Weather. 6.00 News: Financial news. 6.05 News: Quiz, rpt. 7.00 News. 7.05 The Archers. 7.20 Science Now. 7.30 on 1w Shipping. 7.35 The Birth of a Nation, a short guide. 8.15 The Birth of a Nation, a short guide

